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Your ultimate wish list INSIDE

Exclusive
TOY!

Let's knit

ISSUE 86 NOV 2014

THE UK'S BESTSELLING KNIT MAG

32 Fabulous Festive KNITS

EASY DECORATIONS

COSSACK-STYLE SET

RIPPLE STITCH SWEATER

Brilliant
Christmas
MAKES!

DELIGHTFUL
DOORSTOP

DISCOVER NEW
COLOURWORK
TRICKS

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THIS!

KNOW YOUR FIBRES
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Yarn featured Araucania Ranco (1944), Katia Azteca (7839), Cascade 128 Superwash (0822), Debbie Bliss Donegal Luxury Tweed Aran (016) and Rowan Alpaca Colour (135) available from www.loveknitting.com

welcome to *Let's* knit

Meet the team...



DEPUTY EDITOR
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This month...

I've been investigating the properties of some of my favourite knitting fibres (p67)

and selecting the best products for a natural Christmas (p28).

My favourite project...

Bernadette, p16



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This month...

I've been collecting the lovely new faux-fur yarns that have exploded onto the

market this season! They're all perfect for winter, so check out "Faking It" on page 34.

My favourite project...

Home Sweet Home, p54



Check out our cosy sweater from James C. Brett on page 75 and visit your local yarn shop to stock up

Need to get in touch?

Pattern queries:

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julie.freestone@aceville.co.uk

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call 01795 414715 or email
letsknit@servicehelpline.co.uk



Hello and welcome to our November issue. We are well and truly in **winter knitting mode**, with patterns for sweaters and accessories that are **perfect** for chilly days. Charmaine Fletcher's Cossack-style hat and collar (p31) are a **brilliant combo** of standard chunky and on-trend fur yarn, whilst Helen Ardley's giant

cowl (p21) is this season's **must-have accessory**. If you like to layer your outfits then Anniken Allis's cable tunic (p46) is ideal, whereas if it's a good old-fashioned **cosy sweater** you're after then look no further than Linda Parkhouse's chevron knit in snuggly aran yarn (p25).

The **winners** of the 2014 British Knitting Awards are announced on page 56, and if you were one of the many thousands who voted then **thanks so much** for taking the time to do so. The fact that these awards are entirely **reader-voted** means a great deal to those receiving them. Congratulations to all those honoured, including the winners of our two **brand new categories**, Best Brand For British Yarn and Best Yarn Shop Day Experience 2014.

This month's yarn kit is a **fantastically versatile** Christmas decorations kit. You'll find no less than ten patterns on your **free leaflet** plus a pattern for baubles to download from our website. Don't forget to show us your makes – turn to page 7 for more details.

Happy knitting!

Sarah

sarah.neal@aceville.co.uk



crochet pinecones (p28)

JOIN @LETSKNITMAG ON



We're all about cosy knits this month! Be both warm and stylish in Charmaine Fletcher's Cossack-inspired set (p31)



We've got some wonderful ideas for knitty treats to put on your Christmas list, from luxury needles to fabulous hampers (p44)



Jane Burns' rainbow cowl on page 36 is a quick gift that could also be a great stash buster

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DISCLAIMER: We recommend that readers use the main specified yarn for every project as this will produce the best results. The alternatives given are suggestions only, and as no two yarns are exactly the same we advise readers to swatch an alternative yarn carefully before choosing to use it for their project. The publishers are not responsible for any safety issues arising from any items knitted from patterns contained within Let's Knit magazine. Prices are all correct at time of print.

Let's knit

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with our FREE yarn kit!



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Who
cares?
...We do!

At **Let's Knit** we understand that nothing is more annoying than errors in knitting patterns. As part of our total commitment to ensuring that your experience of our magazine is as enjoyable as possible, we're proud to offer

THE LET'S KNIT PATTERN PROMISE:

- Exclusive patterns featured in Let's Knit have been professionally checked and reproduced with the utmost care. Updates can be found at www.letsknit.co.uk
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By post: at the address on page 95 (please mark your envelope 'Support') (Please note we cannot offer assistance with patterns not published in Let's Knit)

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Your FREE KIT

LOVE LETTERS!

Add a truly personal touch to Susie Johns' mini Christmas stockings by Swiss darning the recipient's initial on the front. Find our exclusive alphabet chart on page 30.



Let's knit
Best for free gifts!

Make & Share

We love seeing what our readers make with their yarn kits. Share them with us on Facebook and Twitter, or email molly.todd@aceville.co.uk.



Last month you loved knitting Rodney the reindeer!



Nicola Stevens



Linda McIntosh

Extra Pattern!

Download our bauble pattern for free at www.letsknit.co.uk





WHAT A HOOT!

This season, DMC has released three new yarn collections: Neo Vintage, Metal Chic and Cottage Style, which pays tribute to the warmth of the countryside with five soft yarns. This sweet owl cushion uses Cottage Style Camilla, a chunky yarn which is made from 40% regenerated wool from sustainable fabrics. Call 0116 275 4000 or go to www.dmccreative.co.uk for more.

Let's knit LOVES...

OUR ROUND-UP OF WHAT'S HOT
IN THE KNITTING UNIVERSE



Paws for thought

Louise Walker (also known as Sincerely Louise) has exploded onto the knitting scene! Her debut book *Faux Taxidermy Knits* (David & Charles) features knitted critters of all shapes and sizes, from a mounted moose head to these brilliant polar bear mittens. Let your imagination run wild! £14.99, **0844 880 5851**, www.stitchcraftcreate.co.uk



Simply Sirdar

Fall in love with these two brand new yarns from Sirdar. Ophelia is a fluffy and sparkly yarn in ten glamorous evening shades, while Snuggly Bubbly is a soft baby yarn in pastel colours with an unusual pompom texture. Go to www.sirdar.co.uk or call **01924 231682** to find a stockist near you!



HERE COMES SANTA CLAUS

How do you like your eggs in the morning? We like ours with a seasonal knitted cosy to keep them warm, of course! This adorable knitting kit comes complete with two beautiful wooden knitting needles and enough merino wool to make five egg cosies. £17.95, **01367 710362**, www.thelittleknittingcompany.co.uk

Did you know?

Circular knitting needles were first patented in 1918 in the US.



Family ties

Introducing Conway + Bliss – a dynamic new knitting design label by Nell Bliss (daughter of Debbie) and Teresa Conway. Using Debbie Bliss yarns, the pair is on a mission to create simple and fashionable patterns which draw new, young knitters to the craft. Download the first four patterns for free from www.designeryarns.uk.com



P-P-P-P-PENGUIN!

Need a stocking filler? This brilliant Make Your Own Penguin kit uses eco-friendly wool to create a charming little friend for winter! £14.99, www.notonthehighstreet.com/harmonyathomechildrensboutique



GET HOOKED

Crochet through the night with Pony's colourful new easy-grip hooks! Available in sizes 2-6mm, they cost just £2-2.70 depending on the size. For stockist information, contact groves@stockistenquiries.co.uk or call 01453 883581.

CHARITY WE LOVE...

Little Hearts Matter

Around 600 babies a year are born with only half a working heart, most of whom require immediate open heart surgery. Little Hearts Matter is a national charity which supports the families of these children, including information, research, and a dedicated youth team. Help fundraise for the charity by knitting your own heart as part of the Handmade Hearts campaign! Go to www.lhm.org.uk to get your fundraising pack and download a free pattern for these beautiful hearts from www.letsknit.co.uk



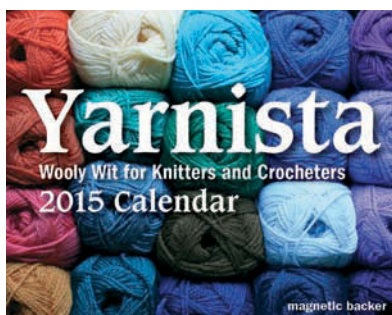
HOME SWEET HOME

Many elderly people struggle every year with cold homes, so why not show your support and catch the attention of your local MP by knitting one of these sweet houses as part of the annual Spread the Warmth campaign by Age UK? They will be displayed around the country during Cold Homes week (2-6 February 2015). Download a pattern and find out more at www.spreadthewarmth.org.uk/knit

BEAUTIFUL BAUBLES

This year, give your tree an extra crafty touch with this cute yarn bauble decoration from The Contemporary Home. £6, 0845 130 8229, www.tch.net





This Month's TOP BUY

Still looking for the perfect present for your crafty friend, or maybe you're looking to treat yourself instead? Pick up a copy of this Yarnista Mini Desk Calendar 2015! Packed full of funny quotes and stories from knitters and crocheters alike, it's sure to keep any wool fan amused for the whole of 2015. Keep it on your desk at work, or put it up on your wall at home – you can even download it for your e-reader! Get yours for £6.49, www.bookdepository.com

Create some wintry friends to make you smile over the colder months! Christmas Snowmen Knitting Kit available from www.gifthousekits.co.uk



November IS THE MONTH...

...OF FESTIVE KNITS AND HOLIDAY MAKES!



WIN A PAIR
OF TICKETS
ONLINE!

This Month's MUST VISIT

Who doesn't love a handmade gift? Simply Christmas, Hobbycraft and Art Materials Live are coming together at the ExCel in London on the 28th-30th November to provide each and every creative soul with the ideal opportunity to get some last minute Yuletide ideas. Workshops and tips from hundreds of exhibitors are sure to spark your inspiration, and don't forget to attend one of the daily demonstrations to pick up a new skill to practise over the holidays. With everything from stitching to sewing to papercraft and cardmaking, this is a great place to stock up on those all important crafty materials! For more details, a full list of exhibitors and tickets, go to www.ichfevents.co.uk

THIS MONTH We're knitting

Editor Sarah has made this gorgeous blue and white bobble hat! "I've wanted to knit something in Baa Ram Ewe's Titus yarn for ages, and this hat was the perfect project. The pattern comes from Rachel Coopey's recent collection, Toasty, which it certainly is!"



DATES FOR *November*



WE ASKED *our readers*

Have any of you ever tried weaving with a loom? What was it like? Tell us about your experience!

@DODGETHECAT

I did when I was little. We made small squares that were combined together to make a big rug!

TINA AMBURY

I have a Dryad 40" table loom on which I've made a table runner with matching placemats.

@CUNNINGWENDY

We're making a Stone Age weighted warp loom with Years 5 and 6 and dyeing yarn with berries!

Pick from the LK BLOG

Ever wondered what a crocheted burger looks like? Wonder no more! WTF Knits author Gabrielle Grillo has been chatting to us about bizarre knitted items, her new book and other weird yarn things. Read the full interview on www.letsknit.co.uk!



MARTINE *makes*

GUERNSEY GIRL MARTINE IS A BLOGGER, TEACHER, KNITWEAR DESIGNER AND REMARKABLY AVERAGE UKULELE PLAYER. FIND OUT MORE ON HER POPULAR CREATIVE LIFESTYLE BLOG AND PODCAST, IMAKE AT WWW.IMAKEGSY.COM.

Some knitters are process-driven – they find joy in the rhythmic clicking of needles and revel in the challenge of a complex project. Others are more product-driven – they spend hours poring over patterns and visualising new additions to their woollen wardrobe. On the other hand, I am all too frequently yarn-driven! Unfortunately my “yarn first, pattern later” approach is sending my stash out of control. It's really got to stop! But first...

Cosy knitting

When I eventually get round to browsing patterns, the ones that currently seem make it into my Ravelry queue all have a “cosy” quality. Perhaps it's the time of year for coveting comforting cowls? Brooklyn Tweed's “Umaro” throw is just gorgeous and as it is knitted in super bulky yarn it wouldn't take too long to knit. Purl Soho's Stitch Block Cowl is described as a knitting adventure as it includes three fascinating stitch patterns.

Choosing colours would be just the start of the experience!

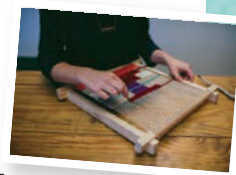
Indie dyers

If you've not yet ventured into the world of independent yarn dyers, be warned: once you go there, it's hard to leave empty-handed! I have recently been browsing Etsy.com for hand-dyed yarns and there are two dyers that have caught my eye. The first is Dyeabolical Yarns, owned by Rachel, whose range includes bright superhero-inspired shades. I'm also very keen on Voolenvine Yarns. Owner Kristin is relatively new to the yarn-dyeing scene, but she really has an eye for colour. Many of her hues are one-of-a-kind, as she loves experimenting. There is something deeply satisfying about supporting small businesses and getting a yarn fix at the same time!



Weaving, anyone?

Knitting is my first craft love, I have always been interested in other yarn-related makes. Weaving has been on my list of “crafts to try” for some time now and I have recently discovered Simplicity Looms, a small, family company producing weaving looms in Australia. These are handmade, reasonably priced and they offer free worldwide shipping. I cannot wait until mine arrives. Watch this space for weaving updates!



TTFN
Martine XOX

WHAT'S HOT ON THE LK WEBSITE

Love the pattern for Bernadette on page 16? Download the instructions for her best friend, Bernard, free on the LK website! Kitted out in a matching outfit, the two of them would make a great addition to any festive home.



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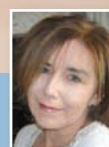
EXCLUSIVE TO
**Let's
knit**

Festive Sparkle

Add some shine to your Yuletide wardrobe with Siân Brown's beautiful sweater

With so much shopping to do for the Christmas festivities the last thing you need is the worry of finding something to wear! Never fear – once you've made yourself this twinkling top you will never be stuck for an outfit again! Pair it with trousers or a simple skirt for an effortless combination suitable for almost any occasion – one less thing to worry about over the holiday season!

Perfect
for parties



meet our
DESIGNER

"This jumper uses a simple textured stitch, and the garment is a flattering shape. The yarn has a sparkle which gives it a different kind of look."

SIÂN BROWN

Measurements & sizes

Dress size (approx):

8-10 (12-14, 16-18, 20-22, 24-26)

To fit chest (cm):

81-86 (91-97, 102-107, 112-117, 122-127)

Actual chest (cm):

92 (102, 112, 122, 132)

Length to shoulder (cm):

54 (55, 56, 57, 58)

Sleeve Length (cm):

45 (45, 45, 45, 45)

Knit Kit

Yarn: Stylecraft Stars DK, shade 1586 Amethyst, 6 (7, 8, 9) 50g balls

Needles: 3.25mm straight, 4.5mm straight, 3.25mm circular

Cable needle

Stitch holders

Safety pin

Tension Square

24 sts x 28 rows

10cm x 10cm

over pattern

4.5mm needles

FOR ABBREVIATIONS SEE PAGE 92

About the Yarn

Stylecraft Stars DK is a soft acrylic and polyester blend yarn interwoven with metallic threads and sequins to give it lots of sparkle. It comes in six pretty shades.

Need an Alternative?

King Cole Glitz is a 97% acrylic and 3% polyester yarn with a metallic strand woven throughout. It is available in eight different colours and is a good choice if you want to add a more subtle shimmer to your knits.

Let's Shop

Stylecraft Stars DK costs £3.60 per 50g (150m) ball from www.yarnpile.co.uk

King Cole Glitz DK costs £2.99 per 100g (290m) ball from 0800 505 3300, www.woolwarehouse.co.uk

To get 10% off all orders at Wool Warehouse, turn to page 61

10% OFF!

Start knitting here

BACK

****** Using 3.25mm straight needles, cast on 111 (123, 135, 147, 159) sts

☐ K five rows

Change to 4.5mm needles

☐ Row 1: k2, [p3, Cr2R, k1, Cr2L, p3, k1] to last st, k1

☐ Row 2: p2, k3, p1, [k1, p1] twice, * [k3, p1] twice, [k1, p1] twice, rep from * to last five sts, k3, p2

☐ Row 3: k2, [p2, Cr2R, p1, k1, p1, Cr2L, p2, k1] to last st, k1

☐ Row 4: p2, [k2, p1] to last st, p1

☐ Row 5: k2, [p1, Cr2R, p2, k1, p2, Cr2L, p1, k1] to last st, k1

☐ Row 6: p2, k1, p1, [k3, p1] twice, * [k1, p1] twice, [k3, p1] twice, rep from * to last three sts, k1, p2

☐ Row 7: k2, [Cr2R, p3, k1, p3, Cr2L, k1] to last st, k1

☐ Row 8: p2, [k4, p3, k4, p1] to last st, p1

These eight rows form main patt

☐ Cont in patt until Back meas 36cm from cast-on edge, ending after a WS row

SHAPE ARMHOLES

☐ Cast off six sts at beg of next two rows. 99 (111, 123, 135, 147) sts ******

☐ Next row: skpo, patt to last two sts, k2tog

☐ Next row: patt to end

☐ Rep last two rows five times more. 87 (99, 111, 123, 135) sts

☐ Cont in patt until armhole meas 18 (19, 20, 21, 22) cm, ending after a WS row

SHAPE SHOULDERS

☐ Cast off 10 (12, 14, 16, 18) sts at beg of next four rows. 47 (51, 55, 59, 63) sts

Place rem sts on holder

FRONT

☐ Work as Back from ****** to ******

SHAPE ARMHOLE AND NECK

☐ Next row: skpo, patt 45 (51, 57, 63, 69), k2tog, turn, work on these sts only for first side of neck shaping

☐ Next row: patt to end

☐ Next row: skpo, patt to last two

sts, k2tog

☐ Rep last two rows four times more. 37 (43, 49, 55, 61) sts

☐ Keeping armhole edge straight, cont to dec at neck edge on every RS row until 20 (24, 28, 32, 36) sts rem

☐ Cont in patt until Front meas same as Back to shoulder, ending at armhole edge

SHAPE SHOULDER

☐ Cast off 10 (12, 14, 16, 18) sts at beg of next row. 10 (12, 14, 16, 18) sts

☐ Work one row

☐ Cast off

☐ With RS facing, place centre st on a safety pin, rejoin yarn to rem sts, skpo, patt to last two sts, k2tog

☐ Next row: patt to end

☐ Next row: skpo, patt to last two sts, k2tog

☐ Rep last two rows four times more. 37 (43, 49, 55, 61) sts

☐ Keeping armhole edge straight, cont to dec at neck edge on every RS row until 20 (24, 28, 32, 36) sts rem

☐ Cont in patt until Front meas same as Back to shoulder shaping, ending at armhole edge

SHAPE SHOULDER

☐ Cast off 10 (12, 14, 16, 18) sts at beg of next row. 10 (12, 14, 16, 18) sts

☐ Work one row

☐ Cast off

SLEEVES

Using 3.25mm straight needles, cast on 45 (51, 57, 63, 69) sts

☐ K five rows

Change to 4.5mm needles

FIRST, THIRD AND FIFTH SIZES ONLY

☐ Row 1: k2, [p3, Cr2R, k1, Cr2L, p3, k1] to last seven sts, p3, Cr2R, k2

☐ Row 2: p2, k1, p1, * [k3, p1] twice, [k1, p1] twice, rep from * to last five sts, k3, p2

☐ Row 3: k2, [p2, Cr2R, p1, k1, p1, Cr2L, p2, k1] to last seven sts, p2, Cr2R, p1, k2

☐ Row 4: p2, [k2, p1] to last st, p1

☐ Row 5: k2, [p1, Cr2R, p2, k1, p2, Cr2L, p1, k1] to last seven sts, p1, Cr2R, p2, k2

☐ Row 6: p2, k3, p1, * [k1, p1] twice, [k3, p1] twice, rep from * to last three sts, k1, p2

☐ Row 7: k2, [Cr2R, p3, k1, p3, Cr2L, k1] to last seven sts, Cr2R, p3, k2

☐ Row 8: p3, k4, p1, [k4, p3, k4, p1] to last st, p1

These eight rows set patt

☐ Work eight more rows of patt

SECOND AND FOURTH SIZES ONLY

☐ Row 1: k2, [p3, Cr2R, k1, Cr2L, p3, k1] to last st, k1

☐ Row 2: p2, k3, p1, [k1, p1] twice, * [k3, p1] twice, [k1, p1] twice, rep from * to last five sts, k3, p2

☐ Row 3: k2, [p2, Cr2R, p1, k1, p1, Cr2L, p2, k1] to last st, k1

☐ Row 4: p2, [k2, p1] to last st, p1

☐ Row 5: k2, [p1, Cr2R, p2, k1, p2, Cr2L, p1, k1] to last st, k1

☐ Row 6: p2, k1, p1, [k3, p1] twice, * [k1, p1] twice, [k3, p1] twice, rep from * to last three sts, k1, p2

☐ Row 7: k2, [Cr2R, p3, k1, p3, Cr2L, k1] to last st, k1

knitwise

Twist again

If you don't have a cable needle, never fear! The cable stitches used in this pattern can instead be twisted using straight needles. For Cr2L, insert the right-hand needle into the back of the second stitch on the left-hand needle. Purl this stitch, but don't slide it off the needle. Knit the first stitch on the left-hand needle and slide both stitches off the left-hand needle. Cr2R is worked in a similar way, but the second stitch is knitted through the front loop and the first stitch is purled.



"Don't restrict this jumper to just your Christmas wear – it's a classic garment that's great for any special occasion!"

LK Editorial Assistant **Molly Todd**

- ☐ Row 8: p2, [k4, p3, k4, p1] to last st, p1
- These eight rows set patt
- ☐ Work eight more rows of patt

ALL SIZES

- ☐ Next row: k1, m1, patt to last st, m1, k1
- ☐ Work five rows
- ☐ Rep last six rows 14 times more
- ☐ Inc row: k1, m1, patt to last st, m1, k1. 77 (83, 89, 95, 101) sts
- ☐ Cont without shaping until Sleeve meas 45cm from cast-on edge, ending after a WS row

SHAPE SLEEVE TOP

- ☐ Cast off six sts at beg of next 12 rows. 5 (11, 17, 23, 29) sts
- ☐ Cast off

NECKBAND

- Join right Shoulder seam
- ☐ Using 3.25mm circular needle, pick up and k 46 (48, 50, 52, 54) sts down left side of Front neck, k1 from safety pin, pick up k 46 (48, 50, 52, 54) sts up right side of Front neck, k47 (51, 55, 59, 63) sts from Back neck holder. 140 (148, 156, 164, 172) sts
- ☐ Next row: k to end
- ☐ Next row: k44 (46, 48, 50, 52), skpo, k1, k2tog, k to end
- ☐ Next row: k
- ☐ Next row: k43 (45, 47, 49, 51), skpo, k1, k2tog, k to end
- ☐ Next row: k
- ☐ Cast off

To make up

Sew left Shoulder seam and Neckband. Join side and Sleeve seams. Sew Sleeves into armholes, easing to fit **LK**

**coming
next issue**

SIÂN BROWN'S GOLD
SPARKLY CARDIGAN!

December issue of Let's Knit
on sale Friday 21st November



Scarf, £15, Wallis, trousers, £18, River Island

Measurements & Sizes

30cm tall

Knit Kit

Yarn: King Cole Pricewise DK, (A) shade 272 Grass, (B) shade 9 Red, (C) shade 55 Gold, one 100g ball of each, King Cole Dollymix DK, (D) shade 149 Flesh, (E) shade 1 White, one 25g ball of each, (F) King Cole Cuddles DK, shade 1175 White, one 50g ball
Needles: 3.25mm, 4mm
Tapestry Needle
Toy stuffing
Bells: small, gold, three
Embroidery thread: black, pink
Fine jewellery wire
Toy safety eyes: 6mm, black, two

Tension Square

23 sts x 32 rows
10cm x 10cm
stocking stitch
3.25mm needles

FOR ABBREVIATIONS SEE PAGE 92

About the Yarn

King Cole Pricewise DK is a 100% acrylic yarn available in over 40 shades. King Cole Dollymix DK comes in 30 different hues, from brights to pastels. It is a pure acrylic yarn and comes in smaller 25g balls. King Cole Cuddles DK comes in six hues and is made from 100% polyester, making it a very soft, fleecy yarn.

Need an Alternative?

Robin DK is another acrylic yarn available in 25 bright, bold shades. Sirdar Snuggly Snowflake DK is a gentle, fleecy yarn with ten colours to choose from in economical 25g balls.

Let's Shop

King Cole Pricewise DK costs £1.65 per 100g (282m) ball, and King Cole Dollymix DK costs £0.80 per 25g (73m) ball from 01707 331777, www.zipsnclips.co.uk

King Cole Cuddles DK costs £2.99 per 50g (136m) ball from 0800 505 3300, www.woolwarehouse.co.uk

To get 10% off all orders at Wool Warehouse, turn to page 61

Robin DK costs £0.99 per 25g (73m) ball, from 01256 462590, www.packlanewool.co.uk

Sirdar Snuggly Snowflake DK costs £2.20 per 25g (170m) ball from 01924 565740, www.woolstuff.co.uk

10% OFF!

Bernadette

Get started on your stocking fillers with this cuddly friend by Zoë Halstead

Remember Bernard from last year? Now he's got a brand new friend – Bernadette! Complete with green skirt and plaited blonde hair, this pretty plushie is ready to start spreading the Christmas cheer. She isn't difficult to make – knitted mainly in stocking stitch, she's a great choice for those who have begun to get familiar with craft. Whether she's given as a present or kept for your own collection of decorations, Bernadette is perfect for any festive occasion!

Start knitting here

BODY AND HEAD

Using 3.25mm needles and yarn A, cast on 46 sts
☐ Beg with a k row, work in st st until piece meas 9.5cm, ending after a p row

SHAPE SHOULDERS

☐ Row 1: k11, skpo, k20, k2tog, k11. 44 sts
☐ Row 2 and all foll alt rows: p
☐ Row 3: k10, skpo, k20, k2tog, k10. 42 sts
☐ Row 5: k10, skpo, k18, k2tog, k10. 40 sts
☐ Row 7: k1, (k2tog) to last st, k1. 21 sts
☐ Row 8: p
Cut yarn A and change to yarn D
☐ Beg with a k row, work two rows in st st

SHAPE HEAD

☐ Next row: k1, * m1, k1, rep from * to end. 41 sts
☐ Beg with a p row, work 21 rows in st st
☐ Next row: * k2, k2tog, rep from * to last st, k1. 31 sts
☐ Next row: p
☐ Next row: k1, * k2tog, rep from * to end. 16 sts
☐ Next row: (p2tog) to end. Eight sts
☐ Cut yarn leaving a tail, thread tail through rem sts, pull tight and fasten off

NOSE

Using 3.25mm needles and yarn D, cast on two sts
☐ Row 1: k
☐ Row 2: p inc one st at each end of row. Four sts
☐ Rows 3-4: beg with a k row, work in st st
☐ Row 5: k dec one st at each end of row. Two sts
☐ Row 6: p2tog. One st
☐ Cut yarn leaving a tail, thread

tail through rem sts, pull tight and fasten off

EAR (make two)

Using 3.25mm needles and yarn D, cast on three sts
☐ Rows 1-2: k
☐ Row 3: (k1, m1) twice, k1. Five sts
☐ Rows 4-6: k
☐ Row 7: skpo, k to end. Four sts
☐ Row 8: k
☐ Rep Rows 7-8 until two sts rem
☐ Next row: k2tog. One st
☐ Cut yarn leaving a tail, thread tail through rem sts, pull tight and fasten off

ARM (make two)

Using 3.25mm needles and yarn A, cast on four sts
☐ Rows 1-2: beg with a k row, work in st st
☐ Row 3: k1, m1, k to last st, m1, k1. Six sts

☐ Row 4: p
☐ Rows 5-12: rep Rows 3-4 until there are 14 sts
☐ Beg with a k row, work 20 rows in st st

CUFF

Cut yarn A and change to yarn F
☐ K six rows

HAND

Cut yarn F and change to yarn D
☐ Beg with a k row, work eight rows in st st
☐ Next row: (k2tog) seven times. Seven sts
☐ Cut yarn leaving a tail, thread tail through rem sts, pull tight and fasten off

LEG (make two)

Using 3.25mm needles and yarn B, cast on 16 sts
☐ Beg with a k row,



knitwise

All stuffed up

Filling your toy might be one of the final steps towards completion of your project, but it's definitely one of the most difficult! Too much stuffing and your work will be uneven and lumpy; too little and it will look deflated. Try gently stuffing as you sew to avoid creating hard-to-reach areas that will prove tricky later on, and remember to use lots of small pieces of filling as opposed to one big wad. Your toy will be soft and cuddly in no time!

EXCLUSIVE TO
Let's
knit

"If you're giving this to a small child, try sewing a pair of eyes using black embroidery thread instead of using buttons and do not thread Bernadette's plaits with wire."

LK Editorial Assistant **Molly Todd**

Download the pattern for Bernard for free at www.letsknit.co.uk



meet our
DESIGNER

"Here's a lovely stocking filler for the little girls on your Christmas list. The new King Cole Cuddles DK gives Bernadette's outfit a fluffy seasonal trim."

ZOË HALSTEAD

work four rows in st st
Cut yarn B and change to yarn E
☐ Beg with a k row, work four rows in st st
☐ Rep last eight rows three times more
Cut yarn E and change to yarn F
☐ K two rows

SHOE

Cut yarn F and change to yarn A
☐ K four rows

SHAPE INSTEP AND TOE

☐ Next row: k11, turn
☐ Next row: k6, turn
Work on these six sts only
☐ K ten rows
☐ Next row: skpo, k2, k2tog. Four sts
☐ K three rows
☐ Next row: skpo, k2tog. Two sts
☐ K ten rows
☐ Next row: k2tog. One st
☐ Cut yarn leaving a tail, thread tail through rem sts, pull tight and fasten off
☐ With RS facing, rejoin yarn to end of sts on RH needle, pick up and k 15 sts along edge of instep and toe, turn. 20 sts
☐ K two rows
☐ Cast off three sts at beg of next and foll alt row. 14 sts
☐ Dec one st at each end of next three rows. Eight sts
☐ Next row: k
☐ Cast off
☐ With RS facing, rejoin yarn to point of toe, pick up and k 15 sts along edge of toe and instep, k five sts on LH needle. 20 sts
☐ Next row: k
☐ Cast off three sts at beg of next and foll alt row. 14 sts
☐ Next row: k
☐ Dec one st at each end of next three rows. Eight sts
☐ Next row: k
☐ Cast off

To make up

Weave in all ends. Sew centre back seam of Head and Body. Stuff Head. Attach eyes in position as shown on previous page. Using yarn tail from top of Nose, sew running stitches around edge of Nose. Draw up thread to form a ball, then sew Nose to face. Sew Ears to each side of Head, leaving top points free. Embroider mouth using pink embroidery thread. Embroider eyelashes in black embroidery thread. Using yarn A, sew running stitches around neck at narrowest part, draw up and fasten off securely. Stuff Body. Fold each Leg with right sides together and sew heel, sole and toe seam of each shoe.



Turn right way out. Sew centre back seam of each Leg. Stuff Leg and shoe. Oversew top edges of each Leg. Place tops of Legs in bottom edge of Body and sew in place. Sew hand, cuff and Arm seam. Stuff, then sew shaped section at top of Arm over shoulder shapings

SKIRT

Using 4mm needles and yarn F, cast on 92 sts
☐ Rows 1-3: k
Cut yarn F and change to yarn A
☐ Beg with a k row, work in st st until piece meas 5.5cm, ending after a p row
☐ Next row: (k2tog) to end. 46 sts

BELT

Cut yarn A and change to yarn B
☐ P four rows
☐ Cast off kwise

COLLAR

Using 3.25mm needles and yarn B, cast on 20 sts
☐ Rows 1-2 and every foll alt row: k
☐ Row 3: k2, * m1, k2, rep from * to end. 29 sts
☐ Row 5: k2, * m1, k3, rep from * to end. 38 sts
☐ Row 7: k3, m1, * k4, m1, rep from * to last three sts, k3. 47 sts
☐ Row 9: k3, m1, * k5, m1, rep from * to last four sts, k4. 56 sts
☐ Row 10: k5, turn
☐ Row 11: skpo, k to end. Four sts
☐ Row 12: k to gap, turn
☐ Rep last two rows until two sts rem
☐ Next row: k2tog. One st
☐ Cut yarn leaving a tail, thread tail through rem sts, pull tight and fasten off

** With WS facing, rejoin yarn to rem sts and cont as folls:
☐ Next row: k8, turn
☐ Next row: skpo, k to last two sts, k2tog. Six sts
☐ Next row: k to gap, turn
☐ Rep last two rows until two sts rem
☐ Next row: k2tog. One st
☐ Cut yarn leaving a tail, thread tail through rem sts, pull tight and fasten off**
☐ Rep from ** to ** five times more
☐ With WS facing, rejoin yarn to rem three sts, k one row
☐ Next row: k1, k2tog. Two sts
☐ Next row: k
☐ Next row: k2tog. One st
☐ Cut yarn leaving a tail, thread tail through rem sts, pull tight and fasten off

HAT

Using 4mm needles and yarn B, cast on 42 sts
☐ Rows 1-5: k
Cut yarn B and change to yarn A
☐ Rows 6-7: beg with a k row, work in in st st
☐ Beg with a k row, work in st st dec one st at each end of next and every foll alt row until four sts rem
☐ Cut yarn leaving a tail, thread

tail through rem sts, pull tight and fasten off

To make up

Weave in all ends. Sew centre of Skirt. Sew in place on toy. Oversew top edge of belt to Body using yarn B. Sew a running stitch along bottom edge of belt, sewing through to Body. Pull thread to gather and define waist. Using an oddment of yarn C, sew chain stitches over belt at centre Front to form belt buckle. Turn Collar over so the wrong side is facing. Place Collar on neck, then sew centre back seam. Sew row of loops in yarn C across Head between Ears to form fringe. Cut 42 lengths of yarn C measuring 44cm. Divide into two groups of 21. Fold so yarn is doubled. Divide strands into three groups of 14 and plait to end. Using yarn B, wrap around ends of plait and tie in bow to secure. Trim ends to even length. Thread length of wire through centre of each plait and curve each end upwards. Sew top of plait to each side of Head just behind Ear. Sew centre back seam of Hat. Sew bell to point. Place Hat on Head over fringe and tops of plaits. Sew in place. Sew bell to end of toe on each shoe **LK**

**coming
next issue**

ADORABLE POLAR BEAR
BY VAL PIERCE

December issue of Let's Knit
on sale Friday 21st November





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EXCLUSIVE TO

Let's
knit

Old Gold

Stay snug over the colder months with this gorgeous wardrobe essential by
Helen Ardley

Cowls and bulky yarns are right on trend this season, so why not combine them both by making this contemporary chunky accessory? Worked in mustard yellow, this project is a statement piece that stands out against the typically muted winter shades. The thick yarn means the project will knit up nice and quickly, so it's also a good choice for those who can't wait to see their finished piece!



meet our
DESIGNER

"A giant cowl is definitely this winter's must-have accessory. This one knits up in no time, and the King Cole yarn is really economical too!"

HELEN ARDLEY

Measurements & sizes

160cm x 40cm

Knit Kit

Yarn: King Cole Magnum Lightweight Chunky, shade 156 Old Gold, four 100g balls

Needles: 8mm

Tension Square

13 sts x 16 rows
10cm x 10cm
over pattern
8mm needles

Special Abbreviations

RT: right twist – miss first st, k second st, k missed st and sl both sts from needle

LT: left twist – miss first st, k second st tbl, k missed st in front loop, sl both sts from needle

FOR ABBREVIATIONS SEE PAGE 92

About the Yarn

King Cole Magnum Lightweight Chunky is a wool and acrylic mix yarn available in 22 shades. Beautifully soft and quick to knit, it's ideal for making warm accessories.

Need an Alternative yarn?

Hayfield Chunky with Wool is a 20% acrylic, 80% wool yarn. It comes in ten muted colours and is also machine washable.

Let's Shop

King Cole Magnum Lightweight Chunky costs £2.99 per 100g (110m) ball from 0800 505 3300, www.woolwarehouse.co.uk

To get 10% off all orders at Wool Warehouse, turn to page 61

10% OFF!

Hayfield Chunky with Wool costs £3.79 per 100g (110m) ball from 0845 544 2196, www.loveknitting.com

To get 15% off all orders at loveknitting.com, turn to the inside front cover

15% OFF!

Start knitting here

COWL

Using 8mm needles, cast on 56 sts

□ Row 1 (WS): p1, * k2, p2, rep from * to last three sts, k2, p1

□ Row 2: * k1, p1, RT, LT, p1, k1, rep from * to end

□ Row 3: * p1, k1, p1, k2, p1, k1, p1, rep from * to end

□ Row 4: * k1, RT, p2, LT, k1, rep from * to end

□ Row 5: p2, * k4, p4, rep from * to last six sts, k4, p2

□ Row 6: k

□ Row 7: as Row 1

□ Row 8: * LT, p1, k2, p1, RT, rep from * to end

□ Row 9: * k1, p1, k1, p2, k1, p1, k1, rep from * to end

□ Row 10: * p1, LT, k2, RT, p1, rep from * to end

□ Row 11: k2, * p4, k4, rep from * to last six sts, p4, k2

□ Row 12: k

□ Rep Rows 1-12 until work meas 160cm, ending after a Row 12

□ Cast off

To make up

Sew in all loose ends.

Sew cast-on edge to cast-off edge **LK**

knitwise

Bulk up

Chunky yarns are generally easier to work with than finer yarns as the stitches are easier to see and the bulky strands mean the project will knit up quickly. They also trap a lot of air and are therefore very warm, making them great for hats and scarves! Be careful though – some thick yarns are tightly spun, which means they can be easier to split in comparison to other fibres.

"If mustard yellow isn't quite to your tastes, try a more neutral shade to make this cowl a timeless part of your winter wear."

LK Editorial Assistant **Molly Todd**

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taken from our
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Pattern 9085



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chunky



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EXCLUSIVE TO
Let's
knit

Lilac Wine

*Make a statement in **Linda Parkhouse's** bold, cosy sweater*

Fan and feather is a truly classic stitch pattern that creates a fabulous ripple effect. It works really well with stripe patterns and we love the mixture of purple hues used here. It's knitted in an aran wool yarn so is super snuggly and an ideal winter wardrobe staple.

Learn a
new stitch



meet our
DESIGNER

"There are many different shades in this colour range which would look good together in this design, so have fun trying them out!"

LINDA PARKHOUSE

Measurements & sizes

Dress size (approx):
8-10 (12-14, 16-18, 20-22)

To fit chest (cm):
81-86 (91-96, 102-107, 112-117)

Actual chest (cm):
98 (110, 122, 134)

Length from back neck (cm):
58.5 (60.5, 62.5, 64.5)

Sleeve length (cm):
43 (43, 43, 43)

Knit Kit

Yarn: King Cole Merino Blend Aran, (A) shade 799 Aubergine, 4 (5, 6, 7) 50g balls, (B) shade 899 Roses, 5 (6, 7, 8) 50g balls, (C) shade 897 Parchment, 4 (5, 6, 7) 50g balls

Needles: 4mm, 4.5mm, 5mm

Crochet hook: 3.5mm, 4mm, 4.5mm

Tapestry needle

Tension Square

20 sts x 27 rows
10cm x 10cm
over patt
5mm needles

FOR ABBREVIATIONS SEE PAGE 92

About the Yarn

King Cole Merino Blend Aran is a pure wool yarn that is machine washable and comes in 15 autumnal shades.

Need an Alternative?

West Yorkshire Spinners Bluefaced Leicester Aran is a soft, pure wool yarn that is fast becoming a British classic. Choose from natural, dyed or variegated colourways.



Let's Shop

King Cole Merino Blend Aran costs £3.59 per 50g (80m) ball from 0800 488 0708, www.deramores.com

To get 15% off all orders at Deramores, turn to page 33

15% OFF!

West Yorkshire Spinners Bluefaced Leicester Aran has an RRP of £4.85 per 50g (83m) ball. For stockists: 01535 664500, www.wyspinners.com

Start knitting here

BACK

** Using 4mm needles and yarn B, cast on 98 (110, 122, 134) sts

- ☐ Row 1 (RS): k
- ☐ Row 2: p
- ☐ Row 3: k1 * [k2tog] twice, [yfwd, k1] four times, [k2tog] twice, rep from * to last st, k1
- ☐ Row 4: k

These four rows set patt
☐ Rep Rows 1-4 once more
Change to 5mm needles and yarn C

☐ Work eight rows in patt
Cont in patt working stripe sequence as follows:

- ☐ Using yarn A, patt eight rows
- ☐ Using yarn B, patt eight rows
- ☐ Using yarn C, patt eight rows
- ☐ Cont in patt and stripe sequence until work meas 12 (13, 14, 15) cm from beg, ending after a WS row
Change to 4.5mm needles
- ☐ Cont in patt and stripe sequence until work meas 24 (25, 26, 27) cm from beg, ending after a WS row
Change to 5mm needles
- ☐ Cont in patt and stripe sequence until work meas 41.5cm from beg and stripe sequence has been worked a total of four times

SHAPE ARMHOLES

- ☐ Cast off 12 sts at beg of next two rows. 74 (86, 98, 110) sts **
- ☐ Cont in patt and stripe sequence without shaping until work meas 58.5 (60.5, 62.5, 64.5) cm from beg, ending after a WS row

SHAPE BACK NECK

Keeping patt and stripe sequence correct, cont as follows:

- ☐ Next row: patt 22 (26, 30, 34) sts, cast off next 30 (34, 38, 42) sts, patt to end
- Work on this set of sts only
- ☐ Patt one row
- ☐ *** Cast off three sts at beg of next and foll alt row, then two sts at beg of foll alt row. 14 (18, 22, 26) sts
- ☐ Cast off ***
- ☐ With WS facing, rejoin yarn to rem sts, work from *** to *** as for first side of Back neck

FRONT

- ☐ Work as for Back from ** to **
- ☐ Cont in patt and stripe sequence as set until work meas 51.5 (53.5, 55.5, 57.5) cm from beg, ending after a WS row

SHAPE FRONT NECK

- ☐ Next row (RS): patt 27 (31, 35, 39) sts, cast off next 20 (24, 28, 32) sts,

patt to end

Cont on this set of sts only

- ☐ Patt one row
- ☐ *** Cast off four sts at beg of next and foll alt row, then two sts at beg of two foll alt rows
- ☐ Dec one st at same edge on foll alt row. 14 (18, 22, 26) sts
- ☐ Cont without shaping until Front matches Back to shoulders, ending after same patt and stripe row
- ☐ Cast off ***
- ☐ With WS facing, rejoin yarn to rem sts, work from *** to *** as for first side of Front neck

SLEEVES

Using 4mm needles and yarn B, cast on 48 sts

- ☐ Row 1 (RS): k
 - ☐ Row 2: p
 - ☐ Row 3: * [k2tog] twice, [yfwd, k1] four times, [k2tog] twice, rep from * to end
 - ☐ Row 4: k
- These four rows set patt
☐ Rep Rows 1-4 once more
Change to 5mm needles and yarn C

☐ Work eight rows in patt **AT THE SAME TIME**, beg shaping as follows:

FIRST, THIRD AND FOURTH SIZES ONLY

- ☐ Keeping patt correct and working in stripe sequence as for Back, inc one st each end of every 6th (-, 4th, 3rd) row, taking extra sts into patt as possible

SECOND SIZE ONLY

- ☐ Keeping patt correct and

working in stripe sequence as for Back, inc one st each end of next and every foll fifth row, taking extra sts into patt as possible

ALL SIZES

- ☐ Cont shaping as set above, keeping patt and stripe sequence correct until there are 80 (88, 96, 104) sts, then cont without shaping until complete sequence has been worked a total of four times and Sleeve meas 43cm from beg, ending after eight rows in yarn C Pm at each end of last row
- ☐ Cont in patt and stripe sequence, work 16 more rows
- ☐ Using yarn B, cast off

NECKBAND

Block pieces to size, sew shoulder seams

Using 4.5 mm crochet hook, join yarn B to neck edge with a sl st

- ☐ Row 1: 1dc in each st to end
- Change to 4mm crochet hook
- ☐ Row 2: 1dc in each st end dec ten sts evenly along row
- Change to 3.5mm crochet hook
- ☐ Row 3: * 6ch, miss two dc, 1dc in next dc, rep from * around neck edge, adjusting placement if necessary to make patt rep fit along second row of dc, sl st in first dc of prev row
- ☐ Fasten off

To make up

Sew cast-off edges of Sleeves to armholes, matching marked rows to side seams. Join side and Sleeve seams using one long length of yarn. Weave in ends **LK**



knitwise

Number 1 Fan

Fan and feather, or ripple stitch, is achieved by working groups of increases and decreases across the row. This pulls the row into undulating waves. There are many variations of the pattern, depending on how deep you want the chevrons to be. This one uses four 'yfwd' increases, which are then counterbalanced by four consecutive 'k2tog' decreases.

"When shaping, keep the pattern correct but make sure you keep the same number of increases and decreases across the row, working any extra stitches in stocking stitch"

LK Deputy Editor **Adrienne Chandler**



Jeans, £19.99, New Look

coming next issue

SMART TWO-TONE JACKET
BY RUTH MADDOCK

December issue of Let's Knit
on sale Friday 21st November



Rustic CHIC

Embrace the wonders of the natural world this holiday season



WINTER WONDERLAND

This tabletop Christmas tree is made from slats of washed wood and is a modern take on the traditional pine. £35, 0345 604 9049, www.johnlewis.com



PINE-TEREST

We love June Gilbank's realistic crochet pinecone pattern! They would look great on wreaths or strung on the Christmas tree. Pattern download: \$5.50 (approx. £3.40), www.planetjune.com



Add a rustic touch to your gifts and knits with these jute ribbons, printed with two Christmassy greetings. £4 per 3m reel, 0845 130 8229, www.tch.net



DECK THE HALLS

Adorn your home with Church Mouse Yarns' gorgeous woolly wreath and garland. Pattern download: \$5 (approx. £3.09), www.churchmouseyarns.com



BERRY CHRISTMAS

Bright red berries add some festive cheer to this pretty garland. £20, Dobbies, 0800 323 4040, www.tesco.com



TREE OF LIFE

These elegant crochet Christmas trees would make a wonderful gift or craft a set to spruce up your own home. Pattern download: \$3.50 (approx. £2.16), www.ravelry.com/designers/katka-reznickova



SPRUCE UP

For a gift that keeps on giving year after year, check out this Grow Your Own Tree kit! £9.50, www.ellieellie.co.uk

3 OF THE BEST luxurious silks

Silk fibres are beautifully indulgent and ideal for the Christmas season. Colinette Tao is a sleek DK yarn that's available in some gorgeous colour effects. It costs £15.30 per 50g (117m) skein. Debbie Bliss Luxury Silk DK comes in solid or self-patterning shades. One 50g (100m) ball costs £9.95.

Rowan Kidsilk Haze is hugely popular blend of super kid mohair and silk. It has an amazing fuzzy halo and costs £8.25 per 25g (210m) ball. All three yarns are available from 01782 862332, www.cucumberpatch.co.uk



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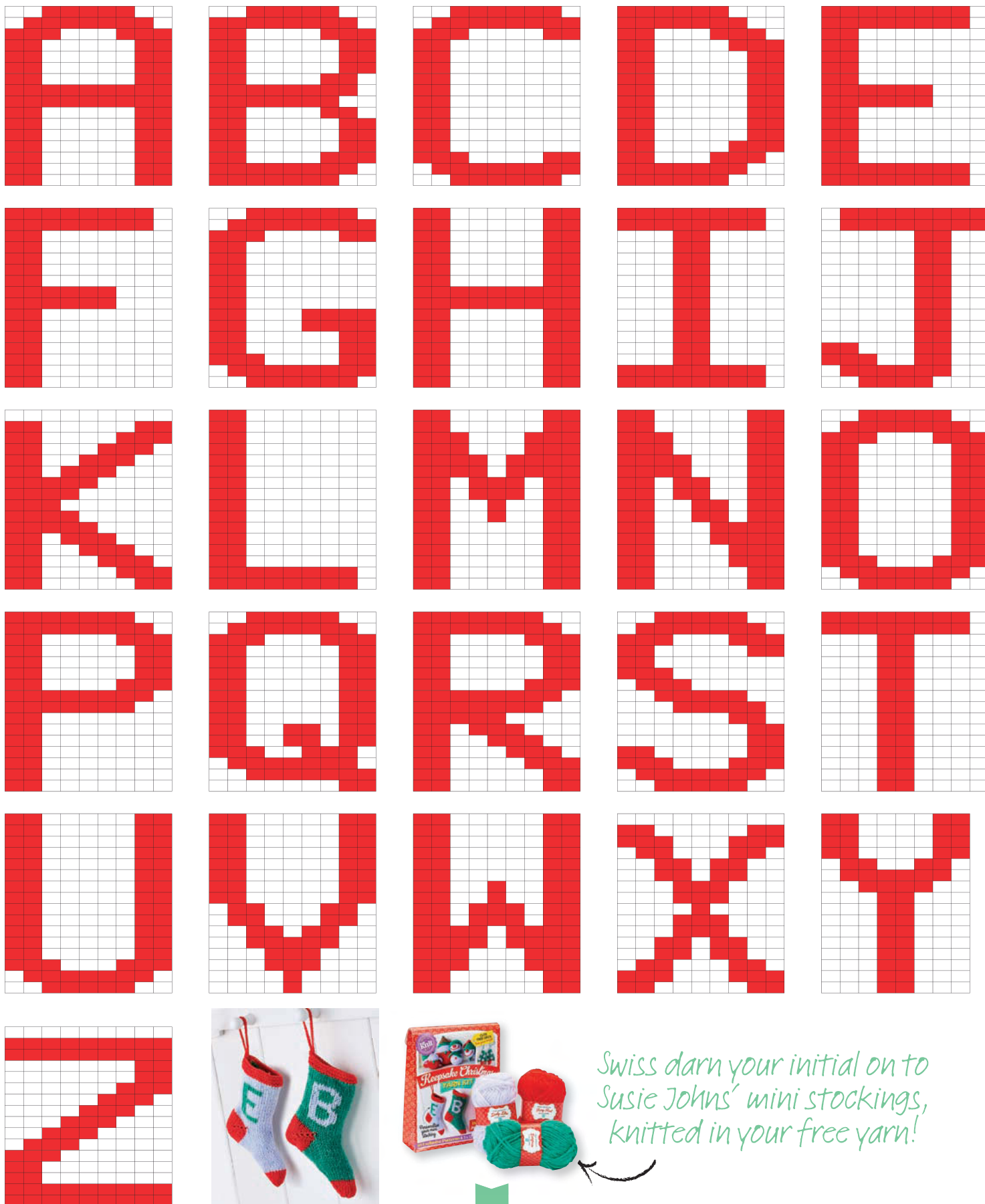
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A to Z

*Personalise your Christmas stockings with our exclusive alphabet charts!
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EXCLUSIVE TO

Let's
knit

Siberian Winter

Cosy up with Charmaine Fletcher's Cossack-inspired hat and collar

It's important to stay snug on chilly days and this set is just the thing for keeping out the biting winds. We love the combination of a smooth and furry yarn – the textured cuff and border is perfect for recreating that classic Russian style. Designer Charmaine has come up with an unusual technique to ensure a seamless transition between the two yarns. Read the Knitwise panel overleaf to find out more.



meet our
DESIGNER

"This hat is made in the round so there are no seams. When decreasing using the furry yarn, it is important to use markers to help you keep count. There is an unusual method for changing the yarns; read more in the Knitwise panel."

CHARMAINE FLETCHER

Measurements & Sizes

Hat
Circumference at brim: **56cm**
Height (unfolded): **25cm**
Collar Circumference at bottom edge: **88cm**
Height: **20cm**

Knit Kit

Yarn: (A) Sirdar Click Chunky with Wool, shade 185 Gull Grey, (B) Rowan Fur, shade 091 Bear, one 50g ball of each for each project

Needles: Hat: 4.5mm (40cm) circular, 5.5mm (40cm) circular, 5.5mm double-pointed, Collar: 5mm (60cm) circular, 5.5mm (40cm) circular, 5mm double-pointed

Tapestry needle
Stitch markers

Tension Square

14 sts x 22 rows
10cm x 10cm
stocking stitch (yarn A)
5mm needles
14 sts x 27 rows
10cm x 10cm
stocking stitch (yarn B)
4.5mm needles

FOR ABBREVIATIONS SEE PAGE 92

About the Yarn

Sirdar Click Chunky with Wool is a smooth and versatile mix of acrylic and wool fibres. Rowan Fur mixes 97% wool and 3% polyamide and has a wonderfully fluffy texture.

Need an Alternative?

James C. Brett Chunky With Merino comprises 70% acrylic, 20% polyamide and 10% merino. It knits to a standard chunky tension and comes in 100g balls. Rico Fashion Fur blends 85% acrylic and 15% nylon and creates a faux fur effect.

Start knitting here

HAT

BRIM

NOTE: Change to dpns when there are too few sts to fit on circular needle

Using 4.5mm circular needle and yarn B, cast on 75 sts using the thumb method, join in the rnd taking care not to twist sts, pm for beg of rnd

- ☐ Rnds 1-8: k, pm every 15 sts on last rnd
- ☐ Rnd 9 (dec): k2tog, * k11, skpo, k2tog, rep from * to last 13 sts, k11, skpo. 65 sts
- ☐ Slip markers throughout
- ☐ Rnds 10-18: k
- ☐ Rnd 19: change yarn (see Knitwise)

MAIN SECTION

- Change to 5.5mm circular needles
- ☐ Rnds 20-40: k
- ☐ Rnd 41 (dec): k2tog, * k9, skpo, k2tog, rep from * to last 11 sts, k9, skpo. 55 sts
- ☐ Rnds 42-44: k
- ☐ Rnd 45 (dec): k2tog, * k7, skpo, k2tog, rep from * to last nine sts, k7, skpo. 45 sts
- ☐ Rnds 46-47: k
- ☐ Rnd 48 (dec): k2tog, * k5, skpo, k2tog, rep from * to last seven sts, k5, skpo. 35 sts
- ☐ Rnd 49: k
- ☐ Rnd 50 (dec): k2tog, * k3, skpo, k2tog, rep from * last five sts, k3, skpo. 25 sts
- ☐ Rnd 51: k
- ☐ Rnd 52 (dec): k2tog, * k1, skpo, k2tog, rep from * to last three sts, k1, skpo. 15 sts
- ☐ Rnd 53: k
- ☐ Cut yarn leaving a 20cm tail, thread through rem sts, pull tight

Let's Shop

Sirdar Click Chunky with Wool costs £3.19 per 50g (75m) ball and Rowan Fur costs £8.24 per 50g (60m) ball from 01244 389310, www.stashfineyarns.com

James C. Brett Chunky With Merino costs £3.09 per 100g (150m) ball and Rico Fashion Fur costs £2.99 per 50g (80m) ball from 0800 488 0708, www.deramores.com

To get 15% off all orders at Deramores turn to page 33

15% OFF!

"Faux fur yarns are a huge trend this winter, check out Editorial Assistant Amy Adams' top picks on page 34"

LK Deputy Editor **Adrienne Chandler**

and fasten off
Weave in ends and fold up Brim

COLLAR

NOTE: Change to dpns when there are too few sts to fit on circular needle

Using 5mm circular needle and yarn B, cast on 120 sts using thumb method, join in the rnd taking care not to twist sts, pm for beg of rnd

- ☐ Rnds 1-4: k, pm after tenth st, then after every foll 20th st on last rnd
- ☐ Rnd 5 (dec): k8, * skpo, k2tog, k16, rep from * to last 12 sts, skpo, k2tog, k8. 108 sts
- ☐ Rnds 6-9: k
- ☐ Rnd 10 (dec): k7, * skpo, k2tog, k14, rep from * to last 11 sts, skpo, k2tog, k7. 96 sts
- ☐ Rnds 11-14: k
- ☐ Rnd 15 (dec): k6, * skpo, k2tog, k12, rep from * to last ten sts, skpo, k2tog, k6. 84 sts
- ☐ Rnds 16-19: k
- ☐ Rnd 20 (dec): k5, * skpo, k2tog, k10, rep from * to last nine sts, skpo, k2tog, k5. 72 sts

NECK

- Change to 5.5mm circular needle
- ☐ Rnd 21: holding yarns B and A together, k two sts, using yarn A only, k to end

Cont in yarn A only

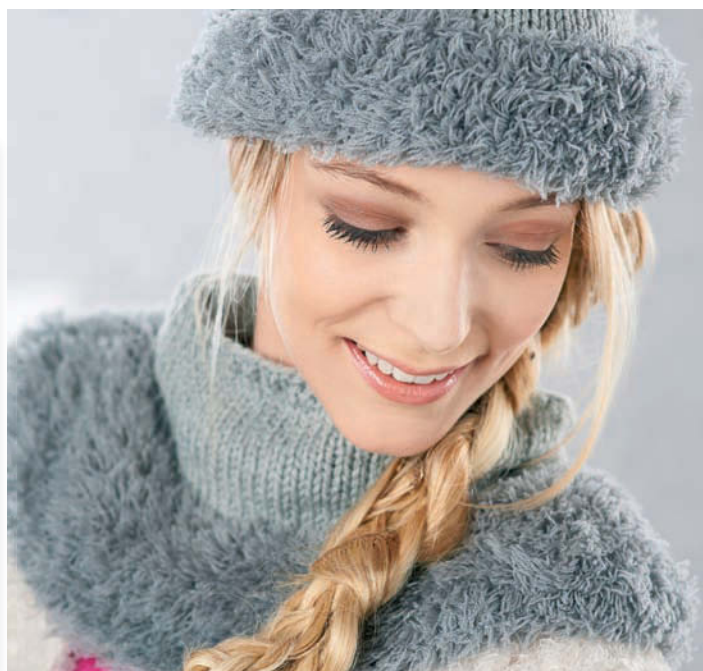
- ☐ Rnds 22-31: k to end
- ☐ Change to 5mm dpns
- ☐ Rnds 32-39: k
- ☐ Rnd 40: (k1, p1) to end
- ☐ Rnd 41: (p1, k1) to end
- ☐ Cast off in moss st patt

Weave in ends **LK**

knitwise

Changing yarns

The Hat uses a special technique to change between the yarns. On Rnd 19, hold yarns B and A together and purl one stitch. Turn your work and place a marker on the new RH needle, then transfer the stitch just worked on to RH needle tip. Remove old round marker. Turn work inside out, so you are looking at the WS of the Brim. Knit three stitches with the yarns twisted together, then drop yarn B and continue in yarn A only. On the following round (Rnd 20), make sure you catch both strands when working the first four stitches.



Jacket, £29.99, H&M, Jumper £29.99 TK Maxx

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Faking IT

GET THE HIGH STREET LOOK
WITH THESE FASHIONABLE
FAUX FUR YARNS

If you studied the catwalks this season, it would be hard not to notice a certain theme popping up over and over again: fur. Of course, most of us these days would not dream of wearing the real thing, but luckily the faux option allows for more possibilities at a much more affordable rate. It's no surprise then that at least five major spinners have released brand new furry yarns this winter! Whether you want a textured teddy bear look or something more realistic, we're delighted to say that you have more choice than ever before.

1 KING COLE LUXE FUR

While many faux fur yarns come in natural greys and browns, King Cole has two coloured options to choose from, too. Fir (featured) and Red Deer each contain a hint of black, giving them a dark and luxurious finish that would make extremely glamorous Christmas decorations! One 100g (110m) ball costs £5.25 from www.purplelindacrafts.co.uk

2 ROWAN FUR

This brand new yarn is made from 97% wool, and the teddy bear effect creates a thick, luxurious fur which is great for edging cuffs or hats. It is available in four natural colours, including this soft grey shade, Bear. Turn to page 31 for a hat and collar in Rowan Fur by Charmaine Fletcher! One 50g (60m) ball costs £8.25 from 01782 862332, www.cucumberpatch.com





3 RICO DESIGN FASHION FUR

There's something extremely comforting about the thick, soft feel of this acrylic and nylon blend yarn. Best of all, it's available not only in warm neutrals, but also a bright red, magenta and turquoise colour (featured), giving you the option of a funkier, modern twist! One 50g (80m) ball costs £2.90 from **01729 822946, www.cottontailcrafts.co.uk**

4 BERGERE DE FRANCE ABAKAN

Light and deliciously fluffy, Abakan can be used on its own for the full fur effect, or in tandem with another yarn for a more subtle finish. However you use it, the lustrous eyelash look really comes alive when it catches the light. One 50g (42m) ball costs £4.25 from **01273 508768, www.cocoonknits.co.uk**



5 JAMES C. BRETT FAUX FUR

Made using 90% supersoft nylon, this brand new yarn is one of softest around, and the natural colours come in a distinctive ombré style which makes them perfect for realistic fur effects. You will also find a simple scarf pattern inside the ball band! One 100g (90m) ball has an RRP of £4.99. For stockists: **01274 565959, www.jamescbrett.co.uk**

6 WENDY ARCTIC

This versatile fur yarn comes in a range of interesting colours, each flecked with ice white to create a classic wintry look. But be quick – the yarn is soon to be discontinued, so make sure you get it while you still can! One 50g (43m) ball costs £2.38 from **www.knittyknittybangbang.co.uk**

7 LOUISA HARDING LUZIA

This elegant yarn was released last year in ten dramatic evening shades, and the glistening fur effect made it an instant hit. Now, Louisa Harding has released seven softer pastel colours, including the pretty Raspberry (featured). One 50g (40m) ball costs £13.45 from **01925 764231, www.blacksheepwools.com**



8 STYLECRAFT ESKIMO KISSES

Stylecraft Eskimo is a classic eyelash yarn which has been around for over a decade! Eskimo Kisses is new this year, and has a slightly softer, more subtle and luxurious finish. It is available in several bright colours mixed with black, and some solid natural shades. One 50g (135m) ball costs £3.25 from **07974 954663, www.awoollytail.com**

Measurements & Sizes

Close-fitting: 23cm deep x 65cm circumference

Loose: 23cm deep x 130cm circumference

Knit Kit

Yarn: Jarol Heritage DK (A) shade 138 Charcoal, 1 (2) 100g balls, (B) shade 144 Aubergine, (C) shade 137 Lime, (D) shade 135 Damson, one 100g ball of each

Needles: 4mm

Tapestry needle

Tension Square

22 sts x 30 rows
10cm x 10cm
stocking stitch
4mm needles

FOR ABBREVIATIONS SEE PAGE 92

About the Yarn

Jarol Heritage DK is a wool, acrylic and nylon blend yarn. It's machine washable and comes in over 30 different shades, from neutral to bold.

Need an Alternative?

Patons Diploma Gold DK is a 55% wool, 25% acrylic and 20% nylon yarn that is easy to care for and is available in 28 hues.

Let's Shop

Jarol Heritage DK costs £3.45 per 100g (250m) ball from 0845 003 0775, www.wool4less.co.uk

Patons Diploma Gold DK costs £3 per 50g (120m) ball from 0131 558 1747, www.mcadirect.com

Over the Rainbow

Wrap up this season with Jane Burns' cosy accessory

The colder months are usually seen as the time of year for dull shades and muted hues. Why not buck the trend by making yourself a bright and stylish cowl? With its cheerful purple and green spots, this winter staple is sure to bring a smile to your face with every outing. Whether you like your neckwear close-fitting or long and loose, it's perfect for any knitter looking to stay snug when they're out and about.

Start knitting here

COLOUR SEQUENCE

NOTE: unless otherwise stated work colours in full sequence

- ☐ Yarn B
- ☐ Yarn C
- ☐ Yarn D
- ☐ Yarn B
- ☐ Yarn C
- ☐ Yarn D
- ☐ Yarn A
- ☐ Yarn D
- ☐ Yarn C
- ☐ Yarn B

TOP CUFF

Using 4mm needles and yarn A, cast on 140 (276) sts

- ☐ K four rows

BODY

- ☐ Rows 1-2: using yarn A, k
- Change to yarn in colour sequence
- ☐ Row 3: k1, sl 2, * k6, sl 2, rep from * to last st, k1
- ☐ Row 4: p1, sl 2, * p6, sl 2, rep from * to last st, p1
- ☐ Rows 5-8: rep Rows 3-4 twice
- Change to yarn A
- ☐ Rows 9-10: k
- Change to yarn in colour sequence

- ☐ Row 11: k5, sl 2, * k6, sl 2, rep from * to last five sts, k5
- ☐ Row 12: p5, sl 2, * p6, sl 2; rep from * to last five sts, p5
- ☐ Rows 13-16: rep Rows 11-12 twice
- ☐ Rep Rows 1-16 four times more, changing colour where indicated

BOTTOM CUFF

Cont in yarn A only

- ☐ Rows 1-6: k
- ☐ Cast off loosely

To make up

Darn in ends and block work (see page 93). Sew side seam **LK**



meet our
DESIGNER

"Thanks to the magic of slipping stitches on consecutive rows, what looks like a complex colourwork pattern is actually quite simple to achieve. It produces an amazing stained glass effect."

JANE BURNS

knitwise

Colourful Changes

Switching shades during knitting might be daunting to newbies, but it isn't as hard as it seems! To swap hues on the beginning of a row, cut the first colour, leaving a 10cm tail to sew into your work. Insert the right-hand needle into the first stitch and wrap the new colour around the needle. Pull the yarn through the stitch in either a knit or a purl stitch and continue to work across the row. Weave in all yarn ends once you've finished your project.

EXCLUSIVE TO

Let's
knit

"Keep a close eye on the colour sequence used – you could use different coloured highlighters as you work through the pattern to help you keep track."

LK Editorial Assistant **Molly Todd**

Measurements & Sizes

To fit: UK shoe sizes 4-6

Knit Kit

Yarn: Navia Duo, (A) shade Plum, (B) shade Cerise, (C) shade Light Grey, (D) shade Orange, one 50g ball of each

Needles: 3.5mm, double-pointed, set of five

Stitch markers

Stitch holder

Tension Square

25 sts x 36 rows
10cm x 10cm
stocking stitch
3.5mm needles

FOR ABBREVIATIONS SEE PAGE 92

About the Yarn

Navia Duo is a pure wool yarn, blended from the fleece of Faroese and Shetland sheep, and Australian lambswool. It is slightly heavier than a standard 4ply and comes in 36 colours.

Need an Alternative?

Cygnat Wool Rich 4ply is a blend of 75% wool and 25% nylon. It is a soft, yet durable and practical yarn and comes in 23 shades. Swatch carefully and change needle size if necessary.

Let's Shop

Navia Duo costs £5.10 per 50g (180m) ball from 0845 200 1162, www.theislandwoolcompany.co.uk

Cygnat Wool Rich 4ply costs £2.40 per 50g (205m) ball from 01279 771153, www.modernknitting.co.uk

Bright Spark

Show off your fancy footwork with Sarah Hazell's colourful socks

The giving of socks has become something of a Christmas tradition and this vibrant pair is sure to bring a smile when they're unwrapped on the big day. The bold combination of shades is just what you need to banish the winter blues. They're worked using Fair Isle – see our Knitwise panel for a great tip on how to keep your strands nice and even.

Start knitting here

SOCK (make two)

Using 3.5mm dpns and yarn A, cast on 56 sts and distribute evenly over four dpns, join in the rnd, taking care not to twist sts

- ☐ Rnds 1-19: (k2, p2) to end
- ☐ Rnd 20: (k to last st on needle, kfb in last st) to end of rnd. 60 sts
- ☐ Rnd 21: k

LEG

NOTE: letter foll instruction indicates yarn shade

- ☐ ** Rnd 1: (k3 A, k3 B) to end
- ☐ Rnd 2: (k3 A, p3 B) to end
- ☐ Rnds 3-4: using yarn A, k
- ☐ Rnd 5: (k3 C, k3 A) to end
- ☐ Rnd 6: (p3 C, k3 A) to end
- ☐ Rnds 7-8: using yarn A, k
- ☐ Rnd 9: (k3 A, k3 D) to end
- ☐ Rnd 10: (k3 A, p3 D) to end **
- ☐ Rnds 11-12: using yarn A, k
- ☐ Rnd 13: (k3 B, k3 A) to end
- ☐ Rnd 14: (p3 B, k3 A) to end
- ☐ Rnds 15-16: rep Rnds 13-14
- ☐ Rnds 17-20: using yarn A, k

- ☐ Rnd 21: (k3 A, k3 C) to end
- ☐ Rnd 22: (k3 A, p3 C) to end
- ☐ Rnds 23-24: rep Rnds 21-22
- ☐ Rnds 25-28: using yarn A, k
- ☐ Rnd 29: (k3 D, k3 A) to end
- ☐ Rnd 30: (p3 D, k3 A) to end
- ☐ Rnds 31-32: rep Rnds 29-30
- ☐ Rnds 33-34: using yarn A, k
- ☐ Rep from ** to ** once more
- ☐ Using yarn A, k four rnds

HEEL FLAP

Using yarn B for heel, work as folls:

- ☐ Next rnd: N1: k to end, N2: k to last st, turn. 29 sts
- Place rem 31 sts on a holder
- ☐ Row 1 (WS): sl 1 pwise, p to end
- ☐ Row 2: sl 1 pwise, (sl 1 pwise, k1) to end
- ☐ Rep last two rows ten times, then Row 1 once more, ending after a WS row
- ☐ Next row (RS): sl 1 pwise, k13, pm, k4, skpo, turn

TURN HEEL

- ☐ Row 1 (WS): sl 1 pwise, p to

- marker, sm, p3, p2tog, turn
- ☐ Row 2: sl 1 pwise, k to marker, sm, k4, skpo, turn
- ☐ Rep last two rows until all heel sts have been incorporated into middle of heel. Nine sts

INSTEP

- Cut yarn B, join in yarn A
- ☐ Next rnd: k9 from heel, remove marker, pick up and k 14 sts down side of heel flap, pm, k across 31 sts on stitch holder, pm, pick up and k 14 sts from other side of heel flap, pm for beg of round. 68 sts
- ☐ Next rnd: k to three sts before first st marker, k2tog, k1, sm, k to next marker, sm, k1, skpo, k to end of rnd
- ☐ Next rnd: k to end slipping all markers
- ☐ Rep last two rnds until 60 sts rem
- Redistribute sts so there are 15 sts on each needle as folls: N1: first 15 sts from instep, N2: next 15 sts from instep, N3: one st from instep and 14 sts from heel, N4: rem 15 sts from heel



knitwise

Inside out

These socks use the Fair Isle colourwork technique. To avoid stranding too tightly, turn your work inside out so the WS is facing outwards. Continue knitting in the same direction as before, you will be working on the dpns furthest from you as you are working around the inside of your tube. Doing this will mean the strands have to take the longest route between stitches, which makes them looser.



meet our
DESIGNER

"Colourful and comfortable, these bright socks will keep you cosy through the chillier days to come!"

SARAH HAZELL

EXCLUSIVE TO

Let's
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Fair Isle in
the round!

FOOT

- ☐ Rnds 1-2: (k3 A, k3 D) to end
- ☐ Rnds 3-4: (k3 D, k3 C) to end
- ☐ Rnds 5-6: (k3 C, k3 B) to end
- ☐ Using yarn B only, cont in st st until foot meas 2.5cm shorter than desired foot length

TOE

- Using yarn D for toe, work as folls:
- ☐ Rnd 1: * k1, skpo, k to end of first

needle, k to last three sts of second needle, k2tog, k1, rep from * over N3 and N4

- ☐ Rep last rnd until 24 sts rem
- ☐ Place sts from N1 and N2 on to one needle and sts from N3 and N4 on another, with WS together, hold sts parallel and graft toe using Kitchener stitch (see page 95). Weave in ends and block **LK**

coming
next issue

CUTE COLOURWORK
HAT AND SCARF

December issue of Let's Knit
on sale Friday 21st November



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Gloved Up

Keep cosy with a pair of fingerless mittens by Lynne Rowe

We all know how clumsy gloves can feel and how annoying it can be taking them off every time you want to use your touch screen phone.

The solution? Fingerless mittens! These snug makes will keep your palms nice and warm without getting in the way when you're out and about. A good alternative to Fair Isle, they are made using a four row pattern repeat and a slip stitch to create a tweed fabric effect.

EXCLUSIVE TO
Let's
Knit



meet our
DESIGNER

"Simple and pretty, these fingerless mittens are quick to knit and would make a great last-minute gift."

LYNNE ROWE

Measurements & sizes

To fit: average woman's hand
18cm measured around palm

Knit Kit

Yarn: Rooster Almerino DK, (A) shade 14 Damson, (B) shade 5 Glace, (C) shade 10 Custard, one 50g ball of each

Needles: 3.75mm double-pointed, 4mm double-pointed, both sets of five

Tension Square

21 sts x 28 rows
10cm x 10cm
stocking stitch
4mm needles

FOR ABBREVIATIONS SEE PAGE 92

About the Yarn

Rooster Almerino DK is a 50% baby alpaca, 50% merino wool yarn, making it beautifully soft. It has good stitch definition and comes in 20 shades.

Need an Alternative?

Rowan Felted Tweed DK is a 50% merino wool, 25% alpaca and 25% viscose blend yarn. It has been lightly pre-felted and is available in 28 rustic hues.

Let's Shop

Rooster Almerino DK has an RRP of £5.40 per 50g (112.5m) ball. For stockists, call 01829 740903 or go to www.roosteryarns.com

Rowan Felted Tweed DK costs £5.70 per 50g (175m) ball from 01422 884885, www.attica-yarns.co.uk

PATTERN STITCH

NOTE: patt is worked in foll colour sequence: two rnds in yarn B, two rnds in yarn C, two rnds in yarn A

- ☐ Rnd 1: (k3, yfwd, sl 1 pwise, yb) to end
 - ☐ Rnd 2: (k3, sl 1 pwise) to end
 - ☐ Rnd 3: (k1, yfwd, sl 1 pwise, yb, k2) to end
 - ☐ Rnd 4: (k1, sl 1 pwise, k2) to end
- These four rnds form main patt

Start knitting here

RIGHT MITTEN MAIN HAND

Using yarn A, cast on 44 sts evenly over four 3.75mm dpns, join in the rnd taking care not to twist sts

- ☐ Rnds 1-20: (k2, p2) to end
- Change to 4mm dpns
- ☐ Beg with yarn B, work ten rnds in patt

THUMB SHAPING

NOTE: letter in square brackets indicates yarn shade for whole of row

- ☐ Rnd 11: [A] work 20 sts in patt, k1, m1, k2, m1, k1, work 20 sts in patt. 46 sts
- ☐ Rnd 12: [A] work 20 sts in patt, k6, work 20 sts in patt
- ☐ Rnd 13: [B] work 20 sts in patt, k6, work 20 sts in patt
- ☐ Rnd 14: [B] as Rnd 13
- ☐ Rnd 15: [C] work 20 sts in patt, k1, m1, k4, m1, k1, work 20 sts in patt. 48 sts
- ☐ Rnd 16: [C] work 20 sts in patt, k8, work 20 sts in patt
- ☐ Rnd 17: [A] work 20 sts in patt, k8, work 20 sts in patt
- ☐ Rnd 18: [A] as Rnd 17
- ☐ Rnd 19: [B] work 20 sts in patt, k1, m1, k6, m1, k1, work 20 sts in patt. 50 sts
- ☐ Rnd 20: [B] work 20 sts in patt, k10, work 20 sts in patt
- ☐ Rnd 21: [C] work 20 sts in patt, k10, work 20 sts in patt
- ☐ Rnd 22: [C] as Rnd 21
- ☐ Rnd 23: [A] work 20 sts in patt, k1, m1, k8, m1, k1, work 20 sts in patt. 52 sts
- ☐ Rnd 24: [A] work 20 sts in patt, k12, work 20 sts in patt
- ☐ Rnd 25: [B] work 20 sts in patt, k12, work 20 sts in patt
- ☐ Rnd 26: [B] as Rnd 25
- ☐ Rnd 27: [C] work 20 sts in patt, k1, m1, k10, m1, k1, work 20 sts in patt. 54 sts
- ☐ Rnd 28: [C] work 20 sts in patt, k14, work 20 sts in patt
- ☐ Rnd 29: [A] work 20 sts in patt,

knitwise

Problem patterns

Even though both the left and right hand glove seem to be identical, the pattern sequence used to make them isn't quite the same. This is because the pattern on either side of the thumb is slightly different, so for one hand the pattern would be back to front. Making each glove using two separate patterns will make sure they are both uniform at the end!

k14, work 20 sts in patt
☐ Rnd 30: [A] as Rnd 29

THUMB

☐ Row 1: [B] work 20 sts in patt, k14, leave rem 20 sts on dpns, turn
☐ Row 2: [B] cast on two sts, p16, leave rem 20 sts on dpns, turn
☐ Row 3: [C] cast on two sts, k18, turn
☐ Row 4: [C] p
☐ Row 5: [A] k
☐ Rows 6-8: [A] (k1, p1) to end
☐ Cast off in rib, cut yarn leaving 30cm tail
 Use tail to stitch Thumb seam down to cast-on sts
☐ With RS facing and Thumb to the left, rejoin yarn B, pick up and k four sts across base of Thumb, patt across rem 20 sts. 44 sts
 Pm at start of rnd
☐ Next row: [B] patt all sts

HAND

☐ Starting with yarn C, work 20 rnds in main patt
☐ Next rnd: [A] k
☐ Next rnd: [A] (k2, p2) to end
☐ In yarn A, rep last rnd twice more
☐ Cast off in rib

LEFT MITTEN MAIN HAND

☐ Work as Right mitten main hand

THUMB SHAPING

NOTE: letter in square brackets indicates yarn shade for whole of row

☐ Rnd 11: [A] k1, m1, k2, m1, k1, work 40 sts in patt. 46 sts
☐ Rnd 12: [A] k6, work 40 sts in patt
☐ Rnd 13: [B] k6, work 40 sts in patt
☐ Rnd 14: [B] as Rnd 13
☐ Rnd 15: [C] k1, m1, k4, m1, k1, work 40 sts in patt. 48 sts
☐ Rnd 16: [C] k8, work 40 sts in patt
☐ Rnd 17: [A] k8, work 40 sts in patt

☐ Rnd 18: [A] as Rnd 17
☐ Rnd 19: [B] k1, m1, k6, m1, k1, work 40 sts in patt. 50 sts
☐ Rnd 20: [B] k10, work 40 sts in patt
☐ Rnd 21: [C] k10, work 40 sts in patt
☐ Rnd 22: [C] as Rnd 21
☐ Rnd 23: [A] k1, m1, k8, m1, k1, work 40 sts in patt. 52 sts
☐ Rnd 24: [A] k12, work 40 sts in patt
☐ Rnd 25: [B] k12, work 40 sts in patt
☐ Rnd 26: [B] as Rnd 25
☐ Rnd 27: [C] k1, m1, k10, m1, k1, work 40 sts in patt. 54 sts
☐ Rnd 28: [C] k14, work 40 sts in patt
☐ Rnd 29: [A] k14, work 40 sts in patt
☐ Rnd 30: [A] as Rnd 29

THUMB

☐ Row 1: [B] k14, leave rem 40 sts on dpns, turn
☐ Row 2: [B] cast on two sts, p16
☐ Row 3: [C] cast on two sts, k18
☐ Row 4: [C] p
☐ Row 5: [A] k
☐ Rows 6-8: [A] (k1, p1) to end
☐ Cast off in rib, cut yarn leaving 30cm tail

Use tail to stitch Thumb seam down to cast on sts
☐ With RS facing and Thumb to the left, rejoin yarn B, pick up and k four sts across base of Thumb, patt across rem 40 sts. 44 sts
 Pm at start of rnd
☐ Next row: [B] patt all sts

HAND

☐ Work as Hand for Right mitten

To make up

Weave all yarn ends into WS and trim **LK**



**coming
next issue**

QUICK AND EASY PURSES
FROM LYNNE ROWE

December issue of Let's Knit
on sale Friday 21st November



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A Luxury KNITTED CHRISTMAS

From gorgeous yarns to extra-special accessories, we've got your festive gift guide all wrapped up!

Knitters know how busy the year can be crafting those all-important presents for the endless special occasions that take place throughout the year. Christmas is therefore the time to let yourself be spoilt! Whether you're looking for something to add

to your wish list or a treat to indulge yourself with after all the hard work you've put into your holiday knits, there's bound to be something here for you. We're sure you've been good enough to deserve every one of them!

Magnificent Yarns

LOOPY MANGO

Perhaps the ultimate luxury yarn, Loopy Mango's Big Loop Merino is an enormous skein of super chunky wool! One 1100g (110m) skein costs £149.50 from **0845 544 2196**, www.loveknitting.com

ALCHEMY YARNS

Haiku is a wonderfully soft, hand-dyed blend of silk and mohair, perfect for your next lace project. One 25g (297m) skein costs £19.95 from **01626 836203**, www.spinayarndevon.co.uk

DESIGNETTE

Spun from 100% raw silk, Shikoku is a 4ply yarn that comes in four unique multicoloured hues. One 50g (250m) ball costs £21 from www.designette.co.uk

DYEFORYARN

Made from 75% superwash merino and 25% silk, DyeForYarn's fingering yarn comes in a variety of bright and beautiful shades. One 100g (400m) skein costs £14.92 from www.dyeforwool.etsy.com

FYBERSPATES

A gorgeous blend of silk and merino, this Scrumptious Lace yarn has a lustrous feel and a delicate sheen. One 100g (1000m) skein costs £15 from **01242 300280**, www.woolstack.co.uk

EDEN COTTAGE

Eden Cottage's new range of Whitfell Chunky is spun from 100% baby alpaca. A worsted 2ply that's both super-soft and hard-wearing! One 100g (100m) skein costs £13 from www.edencottageyarns.co.uk

Sumptuous Accessories

TOFT ALPACA HAMPER

Available for both beginners and advanced knitters, Toft's hampers contain six patterns and all the necessary yarn. £150, 01788 810626, www.thetoftalpashop.co.uk



SILVER STITCH MARKERS

Add a touch of elegance to your makes with these divine stitch markers.

Handmade in sterling silver, you can even get them personalised with a knitting term of your choice! £12, www.tlk-jeweller.com

LUXURY KNITTER'S HAMPER

This delightful gift is full to the bursting with wonderful accessories, including yarn, needles, buttons, pins and stitch markers. Prices start at £54.95, 01367 710362, www.thelittleknittingcompany.co.uk



YARN BOWLS

Full of character and painted in a variety of bright shades, these quirky accessories are sure to brighten up any home. From £19, 01733 236070, www.mr-pottsceramics.co.uk

TJOCKT SCARF KNIT KIT

Each of these indulgent kits is spun and dyed to order and contains 500g of fat yarn, four patterns and a pair of 25mm needles. €96, www.tjockt.com



PROJECT BAGS

Lightweight and sturdy, these knit bags are made to order exclusively for Baa Baa Brighthouse by the Rose Garden. £29.99, 01484 722622, www.baabaabrighthouse.co.uk



Nifty Needles



KNITPRO WAVES is a new range of aluminium crochet hooks featuring nine different sizes, from 2mm up to 6mm. Each grip is colour-coded for quick and easy identification, and the entire kit comes complete with a faux leather case. Ideal for any crocheter! One set costs £28.95 from 0131 558 1747, www.mcadirect.com

HOLZ AND STEIN

is known in Germany for making luxury, high-quality needles – and now you can get them here in the UK!

Available in rosewood, ebony and Kingswood, these pins are smooth, durable and do not splinter. Prices start at £18 for one pair from 01736 366339, www.guernseywool.co.uk



Luxurious Library



KATIA PATTERN BOOKLETS

City (80) and Sport (79). RRP €5.95 (approx £4.66) each, for stockists go to www.katia.com



ROWAN BIG WOOL COLOUR COLLECTION

£9.50, 01829 740903, www.laughinghens.com



LANTERN MOON'S beautifully designed and handmade rosewood needles are a knitter's dream. They are crafted from tropical hardwoods and have a smooth, glossy finish. Grab a set of five for £17.20 from www.bergeredefrance.co.uk

Measurements & Sizes

Dress size (approx):
8 (10-12, 14-16, 18-20)

To fit chest (cm):
81 (86-91, 97-102, 107-112)

Actual chest (cm):
82 (110, 124, 132)

Length (cm):
51.5 (52.5, 53.5, 55)

Knit Kit

Yarn: Rico Essentials Soft Merino Aran, shade 25 Petrol, 5 (6, 7, 8) 50g balls

Needles: 5mm straight, 5mm circular

Cable needle

Stitch holder

Tension Square

22.5 sts x 27 rows
10cm x 10cm
rib pattern
5mm needles

FOR ABBREVIATIONS SEE PAGE 92

About the Yarn

Rico Essentials Soft Merino Aran is a pure superwash merino yarn that's available in over 30 shades, including vibrant colours and muted neutrals. It's ideal for sweaters, cardigans and accessories.

Need an Alternative?

Debbie Bliss Rialto Aran is another pure wool yarn. It comes in over 15 shades, ranging from dark hues to bolder, brighter choices.

Let's Shop

Rico Essentials Soft Merino Aran costs £3.89 per 50g (100m) ball from 0845 544 2196, www.loveknitting.com

To get 15% off all orders at Love Knitting, turn to the inside front cover

15%
OFF!

Debbie Bliss Rialto Aran costs £3.50 per 50g (80m) ball from 01925 764231, www.blacksheepwools.com

Blue Moon

Wrap up this winter with Anniken Allis's cabled jumper

Layering is not only fashionable, but a great way to keep warm as the temperatures fall.

This tunic is made in an on-trend shade of pure wool yarn which, as any knitter knows, is a great insulator while also being a stylish addition to your everyday wear! With a simple cable pattern through both the front and back panels and a shallow neckline, it will look effortlessly pretty with whatever garments you choose to combine it with.

Start knitting here

BACK

Using 5mm straight needles, cast on 94 (126, 142, 150) sts

□ Row 1 (RS): k2, [p2, k2] 8 (12, 14, 15) times, p2, k4, p3, k3, p2, k3, p3, k4, p2, [k2, p2] 8 (12, 14, 15) times, k2

□ Row 2 (WS): p2, [k2, p2] 8 (12, 14,

15) times, k2, p4, k3, p3, k2, p3, k3, p4, k2, [p2, k2] 8 (12, 14, 15) times, p2

□ Rep Rows 1-2 until Back meas 10cm, ending after a WS row

□ Next row: k2, [p2, k2] 8 (12, 14, 15) times, work Row 1 of Chart overleaf, [k2, p2] 8 (12, 14, 15) times, k2

□ Next row: p2, [k2, p2] 8 (12, 14, 15) times, work Row 2 of Chart, [p2, k2] 8 (12, 14, 15) times, p2

□ Cont to work each row of Chart until Back meas 30 (30, 29.5, 30) cm, ending after a WS row

INCREASE FOR SLEEVES

Keeping patt as set, inc two sts on each row as follows:

□ ** Next row: k2, m1, patt to last two sts, m1, k2. 96 (128, 144, 152) sts

□ Next row: p2, m1, patt to last two sts, m1, p2. 98 (130, 146, 154) sts

□ Rep these two rows four times more. 114 (146, 162, 170) sts

□ Next row: cable cast on 14 (14, 18, 18) sts. Patt to end

□ Next row: as last row. 142, (174, 198, 206) sts **

□ Cont in patt until Back meas 48.5 (49.5, 50.5, 52) cm ending after a WS row



knitwise

Three-needle cast off

This is a great way of casting off your work, and joining your pieces together at the same time – in this case, it finishes off the shoulders perfectly. Hold the two pieces with the right sides together and the stitches distributed evenly. Then insert a third needle into the first stitch on each needle, and knit the two together. Repeat this step a second time, and then pass your first stitch over the second as you would on a normal cast off. Ta-da!

EXCLUSIVE TO

Let's
knit

"If there's not enough room on your needles to cast on all the stitches, try working back and forth on a circular needle instead of straight ones"

LK Editorial Assistant **Molly Todd**

Scarf from a selection at White Stuff, shorts, £24.99, TK Maxx, top, £9.90, Uniqlo, tights, £3.99, H&M



meet our
DESIGNER

"This sweater starts with a rib pattern which flows into a cable pattern at the waist. It's perfect as a layering garment with a slight vintage feel."

ANNIKEN ALLIS

RIGHT NECK SHAPING

- Next row: patt for 52 (67, 78, 82) sts, turn
- Next row: p1, patt2tog, patt to end. 51 (66, 77, 81) sts
- Next row: patt to last three sts, patt2tog, k1. 50 (65, 76, 80) sts

RIGHT SHOULDER SHAPING

- Next row: patt 26 (30, 34, 38) sts, w&t
- Next row: patt to end
- Next row: patt 13 (15, 17, 18) sts, w&t
- Next row: patt to end
- Next row: as last row
- Place all sts on holder

LEFT NECK SHAPING

- Place 38 (40, 42, 42) sts on holder for Back neck, re-attach yarn at neck edge, patt to end
- Next row: patt to last three sts, patt2tog, p1
- Next row: k2, patt2tog, patt to end. 50 (65, 76, 80) sts
- Next row: patt to end

LEFT SHOULDER SHAPING

- Work as Right shoulder shaping
- Place all sts on holder

FRONT

- Work as Back to Sleeve incs

INCREASE FOR SLEEVES

- Work as Back sleeves from ** to **

- Cont in patt until Front meas 44.5 (44, 44, 44.5) cm, ending after a WS row

SHAPE LEFT NECK

- Next row: patt for 56 (71, 82, 86) sts, turn
- Next row: p1, patt2tog, patt to end. 55 (70, 81, 85) sts
- Next row: patt to last three sts, patt2tog, k1. 54 (69, 80, 84) sts
- Rep last two rows twice more. 50 (65, 76, 80) sts
- Cont in patt until left Front matches Back to left shoulder shaping, ending after a RS row

SHAPE LEFT SHOULDER

- Work as Back left shoulder shaping

SHAPE RIGHT NECK

- Place 30 (32, 34, 34) sts on holder for Front neck, re-attach yarn at

neck edge

- Next row: patt to end. 56 (71, 82, 86) sts
- Next row: patt to last three sts, patt2tog, p1. 55 (70, 81, 85) sts
- Next row: k1, patt2tog, patt to end. 54 (69, 80, 84) sts
- Rep last two rows twice more. 50 (65, 76, 80) sts.
- Cont in patt until right Front matches Back to right shoulder shaping, ending after a WS row

RIGHT SHOULDER SHAPING

- Work as Back right shoulder shaping

To make up

Join shoulders by working a three-needle cast off on WS. Block pieces to measurements (see page 93)

NECK BAND

- Using 5mm circular needle and

beg at left shoulder with RS facing, pick up and k 14 (16, 18, 20) sts to Front neck, k 30 (32, 34, 34) from Front neck, pick up and k 14 (16, 18, 20) sts to right shoulder, pick up and k four sts to Back neck, k 38 (40, 42, 42) from Back neck, pick up and k four sts to left shoulder. 104 (112, 120, 124) sts

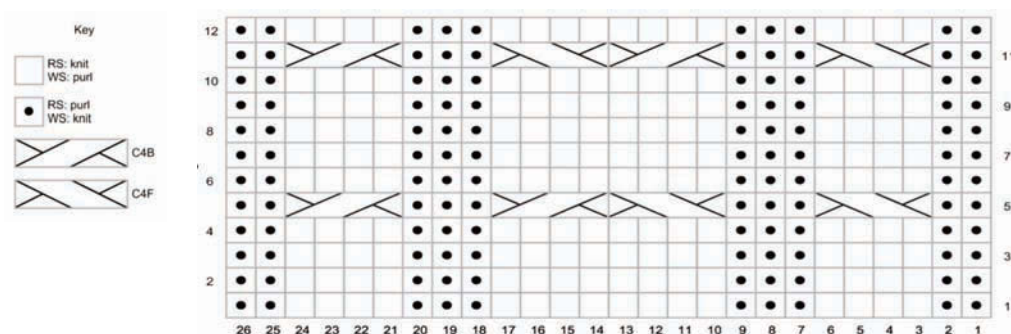
- Rnd 1: p
- Rnd 2: k
- Cast off pwise

SLEEVE EDGING

- Using 5mm straight needles with RS facing, pick up and k 64 (68, 72, 76) sts around Sleeve
- Rows 1-2: k
- Cast off

To make up

Sew underarm and side seams. Weave in all loose ends **LK**



Mini Mochi

Machinewashable

80% Merino Wool / 20% Nylon

CRYSTAL PALACE YARNS

Mini Mochi is a super-soft merino blend in rich self striping colours ... for stockists visit www.hantex.co.uk/cpy

coming up in the **NEXT ISSUE...**

**3 BALLS OF YARN
+ 30 BONUS PATTERNS**

Including:
Six Scandi-style
knits for your
yarn kit



Adorable toys



Fab accessories

IT'S
Party Time!
*Beautiful glitzy bolero
from Siân Brown*

PLUS! ● Last-minute gifts and decs
● On trend homewares ● Textured
jacket ● Crochet Christmas flowers

December issue of Let's Knit on sale
Friday 21st November 2014

Why not take up a trial subscription with 3 issues for just £6?* Go to www.letsknit.co.uk/LKN14T



Star LETTER

Early this year I bought an issue of Let's Knit from May 2009 in a charity shop. I hadn't been knitting for quite a few months due to shoulder problems, but I hoped to start again. I was looking through the magazine and saw a picture of a doll called Rachel Raggs on the Ask Kitty page. I felt spellbound with the idea of making and entering her in the Egham Royal Show held over the Bank Holiday of August. It wasn't without its difficulties! I had trouble finding the pattern by Jan Horrox and ended up buying a book along with a different pattern and adapting them both. The first face I sprayed with fixative, as suggested in the book, and the colours ran! Finally I succeeded and put her forward for the competition. I won First Prize and the cup for Best in Show of the Handicraft Section. Happy day! Thank you Let's Knit – that 2009 copy was obviously meant for me. I now make sure I buy it every month!

Mrs Annie Bowbanks

Thank you for your letter, Annie! Congratulations on winning both of your prizes! If you want to make another Rachel Raggs, we've found the pattern to buy and download at janharrox.co.uk/products/rachel-raggs. Enjoy your prize!



STOP & SHARE

STORIES AND MAKES GALORE FROM OUR WONDERFUL READERS

HERE'S WHAT YOU'VE MADE:

Winner of
our Knitted
Bags
challenge!

"Here is my first bag – the handles are from my charity buy and I have added crystals to the Scotties' eyes" **knittingqueenuk**



Star
make

"I finished Mrs Claus!"
Gina Hobbs



WE ASKED
YOU ON
FACEBOOK:



What luxury knitting
items are you hoping
to get for Christmas
this year?

28% of you said special yarns
27% of you said rosewood needles
5% of you said a silk knitting bag
18% of you said a bumper hamper
22% of you said a brand new kit



"Superboy!"
Alison Fleetwood



"Wee polar bear"
Jude Knowles

"Baby's
matinee coat"
Gayle George





WE ASKED ON TWITTER...

What's the best knitter's Christmas present you have ever received?

HERE'S WHAT YOU SAID:

My partner gave me a 1920s hand-embroidered knitting bag. He knows me well!
@kariebookish

A complete set of Knit Pro Symfonie Interchangeables
@bluebirdanielle

Knitted baubles, Nordic style and colours. Just gorgeous
@Lime_Green_Lady

My husband bought me a spinning wheel for Christmas the year we bought our first alpacas
@AlpacaJo

A Knit Pro set and a copy of Victorian Lace Today. Got me hooked!
@YarnAddictAnni

A framed photo of my sister and her family all wearing socks that I had knitted for them
@probablyjane

WIN!

Our Star Letter this month has won a knitting kit from Katia, complete with yarn, needles and accessories.



Wendy

This month's Star Make winner has bagged themselves 12 balls of Wendy Ramsdale DK and an accompanying pattern book.

Tip

OF THE MONTH

I couldn't find any stitch markers the other day, so I use my husband's pellet bands from his fishing box. They were perfect - and you can buy 100 for just over a pound!

Nicky Stevens

PRINTED TIPS WIN A £10 VOUCHER TO SPEND AT BLACK SHEEP WOOLS



Why I love my local yarn shop

"I love to go crocheting at the Glen Gallery in Northern Ireland. The shop is an Aladdin's cave for crafters and yarners, full of temptation, and there are regular workshops with top designers. A great place to visit!"

Valerie Reilly

Let us know why you love your local yarn shop by emailing molly.todd@aceville.co.uk



"The advent calendar my mum knitted for my baby."
Wendy Raine



"I made a bunny!"
Shelley Juliet Parker

"Front of baby Christmas jumper"
Julie Kearney



"A lovely cardigan for evening wear!"
Beverly Monks



PINS AND NEEDLES

What would the holidays be without the traditional festive stocking? They're great decorations and make wonderful gifts, too! Follow our Christmas Stockings board on Pinterest for loads of ideas and inspiration.



[Pinterest.com/letsknitmag](https://www.pinterest.com/letsknitmag)

Get in touch

Send us photos of your makes, tell us about your experiences, share tips or answer questions and polls.

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Colchester, Essex, CO2 8JY

TEA Break

SETTLE DOWN WITH A CUPPA TO READ, RELAX AND TEST YOUR KNITTY KNOWLEDGE

LET'S KNIT'S QUICK QUIZ

How much do you know about your favourite hobby? Take our fun quiz to find out!

1. There are two distinct breeds of alpaca: what are they called?
2. Which method would you use for knitting socks on a long circular needle?
3. Designer and colour specialist Kaffe Fassett was born in which country?
4. In which decade was acrylic yarn invented?
5. Which royal figure is credited with popularising Fair Isle?

NAME THAT YARN

Here are three clues to our mystery yarn. Is it one that's in your stash?

- It falls between a 4ply and a DK
- The brand was set up by two Swedish sisters
- It's great for kids and baby knits, and last year a selection of adult designs were added to the pattern range for the first time



Check out the answers below to see how many you got right!

Caption Competition

Email molly.todd@aceville.co.uk with your caption and we'll publish the winning entry in our next issue!



"Elf and safety hats had to be worn, much to the little one's disgust!" Congratulations to **Fiona Morrison**.

Here's our favourite caption from last issue



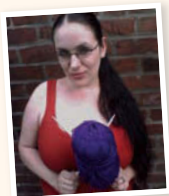
Wordplay

We've jumbled up three knitting-related words or phrases. Can you work out what they are?

- cased ere (8)
- helping new sin (8, 5)
- chortled this (6, 6)



PURLS OF WISDOM



By Claire Thomas

November is a wonky dormouse

I like November. The fallen leaves crisp with frost, it's pleasingly cold with plenty of opportunities to show off my knitted accessories. Winter is still new enough to be fun, with Christmas still well ahead to look forward to... No, wait, that's the problem. The thing I don't like about November is that it's always overshadowed by Christmas. After the brief excitement of Bonfire Night, it's just one frantic scoot towards the festive season, rushing around laden with bags of presents, trying to source tins of Quality Street while they're on offer. I don't have November knitting. All that's on my needles for those 30 days is knitted gingerbread men for the Christmas tree we've yet to buy, reindeer sweaters for my sons that I'm racing to finish in time for them to wear on the day

(and before Eldest's nascent rebellion against Mum's sweaters reaches boiling point), and the long list of presents I'm usually still trying to make.

But this year, I've decided to stop all that. I'm going to enjoy November for its own sake. I will buy decorations – and presents. I'm taking back the

"I'm taking back the forgotten month. I will actually knit something Novemberish"

forgotten month. I will actually knit something Novemberish. Which means, of course, thinking of something Novemberish. As I lounge in a cafe, pausing occasionally to joggle the baby's pram, nattering with a friend while facing the tower

of chocolate-dusted whipped cream under which a drink may well lurk, I tell her of my plans. "What are you going to make then?" she asks.

"That's the problem," I say despairingly. "I've no idea."

Actually, once I start, I do remember what characterises November. I knit a Bonfire-inspired cabled beanie in lovely hand-dyed yarn in flame colours (it cost a bomb, but hey, this is an experiment), a saltire cushion cover to celebrate St Andrew's day at the end of the month, which I will pass off as a gift to the next Scottish friend I see, and a rather boss-eyed, lumpy knitted dormouse to symbolise all the little creatures now in hibernation. (As you may know already, toys have never been my strong point, but luckily Toddler is not fussy about appearance, and adopts it anyway, over Husband's howls of derisory laughter over its wonky tail.)

Meeting up with the same friend a couple of weeks later, I tell her rather proudly of my massive success – downplaying the wonkiness of the dormouse, obviously. Why tell the truth, when by omission you can pretend to be the female Alan Dart?

"Super," she says. "And how's your Christmas preparation going?"

"Oh no..." I wail, remembering how much I've left myself to do.

Our hoped-for lazy afternoon is spent racing round town, pram rattling ahead of us, frantically buying presents for everyone, throwing Christmas sweaters and tins of shortbread into trolleys like a festive Supermarket Sweep. I spend a fortune and feel quite faint.

"I have to eat for the next month," I howl. "I'll have to cut the present list right down to just family. I can't afford to buy anything for anyone else."

My friend rolls her eyes. "I hope you're going to get me something, after all my help this afternoon."

"Why of course I am," I say, remembering she was brought up in Glasgow. "In fact, I've got it already..."

Claire Thomas is a freelance journalist and founder of Stitch 'n' Bitch group, Knit Pickers



How did you do?

Quick Quiz: 1. Suri and huacaya, 2. The magic loop 3. America, 4. 1940s, 5. Edward, Prince of Wales, later Edward VIII
Word Play: 1. decrease, 2. spinning wheel, 3. stitch holder Name that yarn: Millamia Naturally Soft Merino

EXCLUSIVE TO
**Let's
knit**

Home Sweet Home

Add some timeless charm to your decorations with this Yuletide ornament from Jane Burns

What Christmas would be complete without a Gingerbread house? With windows, button adornments and even knitted icing, this is a great, calorie-free way to enjoy a seasonal treat! Made predominantly in stocking stitch with a simple cable pattern on the roof and swiss-darned embellishments, it's also a good make for those crafters looking to start their first winter project.



meet our
DESIGNER

"Sadly I do not like gingerbread biscuits, but not wanting to exclude them from my biscuit-filled life, I decided to knit my very own gingerbread house!"

JANE BURNS

Measurements & sizes

Width: 13cm

Height: 20cm

Depth: 15cm

Knit Kit

Yarn: (A) Wendy Aran with Wool, shade 690 Old Gold, one 400g ball, Peter Pan Merino Baby DK, (B) shade 030 White, (C) shade 033 Blue, (D) shade 036 Raspberry, one 50g ball of each

Needles: 3.25mm, 4mm

Buttons

Elastic band

Rice, sand or glass beads

Small plastic bag

Toy stuffing

Tension Square

20 sts x 28 rows

10cm x 10cm

stocking stitch

4mm needles

Special Abbreviations

C2F: sl one st on to cn and hold to front, k next st, k st from cn

C2B: sl one st on to cn and hold to back, k next st, k st from cn

MB: k into front, back, and front of next st, turn, p3, turn, k3, pass second and third sts on RH needle over first st

FOR ABBREVIATIONS SEE PAGE 92

About the Yarn

Wendy Aran with Wool is a 75% acrylic, 25% wool yarn that comes in 24 plain and patterned shades. It's machine washable and can also be tumble dried!

Peter Pan Merino Baby DK is a lovely soft yarn made from 100% superwash merino wool. Choose from 12 colours, including six pale tones and six more vibrant ones.

Need an Alternative?

Stylecraft Special Aran with Wool is another acrylic and wool blend yarn. It has a palette of over 25 hues and is good for both garments and accessories.

Cygnnet Superwash DK is a pure wool yarn available in 18 colours, from brights to pretty pastels.

FESTIVE DOORSTOP

Start knitting here

ROOF

Using 4mm needles and yarn A, cast on 40 sts

- ☐ Rows 1-2: beg with a k row, work in st st
- ☐ Row 3: * C2F, C2B, rep from * to end
- ☐ Row 4: p
- ☐ Row 5: * C2B, C2F, rep from * to end
- ☐ Row 6: p
- ☐ Rep Rows 3-6 seven times more Pm at beg and end of row
- ☐ Rep Rows 3-6 eight times more
- ☐ Next row: k
- ☐ Cast off

FRONT AND BACK PANELS

(make two)

Using 4mm needles and yarn A, cast on 24 sts

- ☐ Rows 1-30: beg with a k row, work in st st
- ☐ Pm at beg and end of row
- ☐ Rows 31-32: beg with a k row, work in st st
- ☐ Row 33: k1, ssk, k to last three sts, k2tog, k1. 22 sts
- ☐ Rows 34-36: beg with a p row, work in st st
- ☐ Rows 37-44: rep Rows 33-36 twice. 18 sts
- ☐ Row 45: k1, ssk, k to last three sts, k2tog, k1
- ☐ Row 46: p
- ☐ Rows 47-58: rep last two rows six times. Four sts
- ☐ Row 59: ssk, k2tog. Two sts
- ☐ Row 60: p2tog. One st
- ☐ Cut yarn leaving a tail, thread through rem st, pull tight and fasten off

SIDE AND BASE PANELS

Using 4mm needles and yarn A, cast on 28 sts

- ☐ Rows 1-29: beg with a k row, work in st st
- ☐ Row 30: k
- ☐ Rows 31-62: beg with a k row, work in st st
- ☐ Row 63: p
- ☐ Rows 64-92: beg with a p row, work in st st
- ☐ Cast off

ICED EDGING

Using 3.25mm needles and yarn B, cast on five sts

- ☐ Rows 1-3: beg with a p row, work in st st
- ☐ Row 4: k2, MB, k2
- ☐ Rep Rows 1-4 until piece meas 75cm
- ☐ Cast off

DOOR

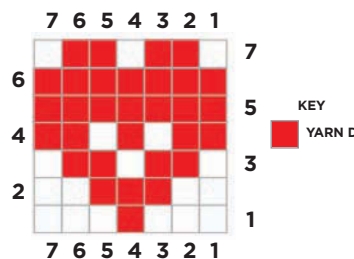
Using 3.25mm needles and yarn C, cast on ten sts

- ☐ Rows 1-20: beg with a k row, work in st st
- ☐ Cast off

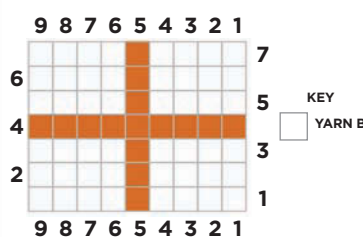
To make up

Sew Iced edging around edge of Roof. Using Charts and image as a guide, Swiss darn Love heart and Windows on House. Fold Sides of house to meet Roof. Sew corner of Roof to marker on Front and Back Panels, leaving one seam open. Place layer of stuffing in bottom of House. Place weight inside. Stuff around weight and shape House. Close seam. Sew on buttons, using image as a guide **LK**

LOVE HEART SWISS DARNING CHART



WINDOW SWISS DARNING CHART

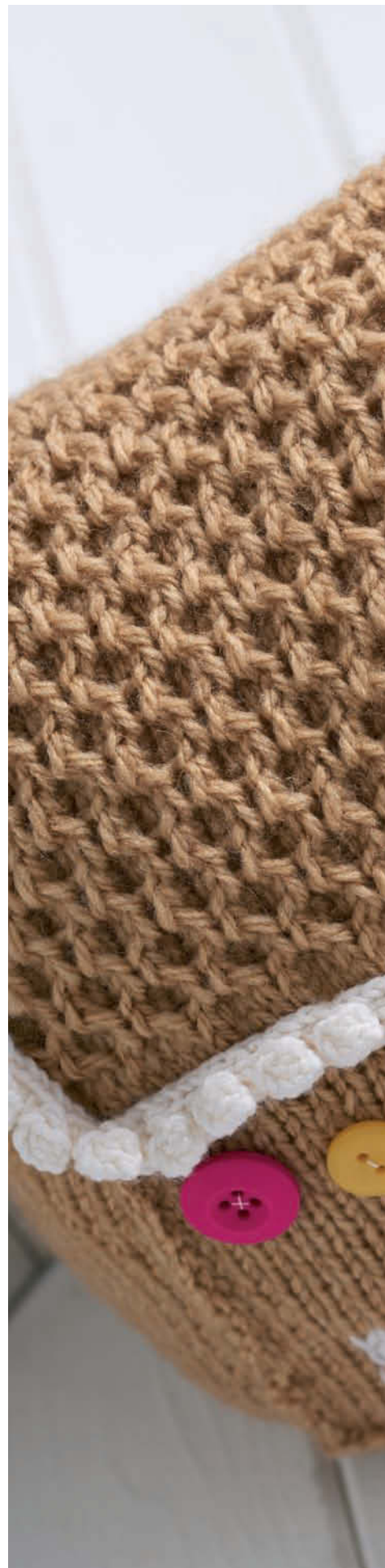


Let's Shop

Wendy Aran with Wool costs £9.95 per 400g (800m) ball, and **Peter Pan Merino Baby DK** costs £4 per 50g (116m) ball from 0131 558 1747, www.mcadirect.com

Stylecraft Special Aran with Wool costs £8.49 per 400g (816m) ball from 0800 505 3300, www.woolwarehouse.co.uk

Cygnnet Superwash DK costs £2.40 per 50g (104m) ball from 01279 771153, www.modernknitting.co.uk





knitwise

Weighing up

Weights for doorstops are easy to make and can be crafted from everyday household objects. Dried rice is one of the cheapest, most accessible fillings, but you can use sand or glass beads if you prefer. Simply fill a small plastic bag with your choice of filling, then securely close the bag with an elastic band to ensure nothing falls out. Place the weight inside of your finished Gingerbread house and stuff accordingly.



Friday 12 December 2014

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The RESULTS!

WE REVEAL THE WINNERS
OF THIS YEAR'S BRITISH
KNITTING AWARDS - AS
VOTED FOR BY YOU!

The date was Thursday 9th October; the venue was the Knitting & Stitching Show at London's Alexandra Palace. You'd voted in your thousands, and it was finally time to roll out the red carpet, uncork the champagne and hand out the gongs to the winners of the 2014 British Knitting Awards. These coveted awards mean a huge amount to those honoured as they're voted for entirely by you, the great knitting public! So - drumroll please - here are the 2014 results in full.



BEST PATTERN HOUSE

1st Rowan
2nd Sirdar
3rd Debbie Bliss

"The team at Rowan is delighted to have scooped five first places in the British Knitting Awards. We are thrilled that so many people chose to vote for us - thank you to everyone who showed their appreciation of our yarns and collections."

David MacLeod,
Design Manager, Rowan

YARNS

BEST OVERALL YARN BRAND

1st Rowan
2nd Sirdar
3rd Stylecraft

BEST VALUE YARN BRAND

1st Sirdar
2nd King Cole
3rd Stylecraft

BEST BABY YARN BRAND

1st Debbie Bliss
2nd Sirdar
3rd Deramores

BEST LUXURY YARN BRAND

1st Rowan
2nd Debbie Bliss
3rd Noro

BEST SOCK YARN BRAND

1st Rowan
2nd Regia
3rd Noro

BEST INDEPENDENT YARN BRAND

1st Deramores
2nd Toft Alpaca
3rd Fyberspates

BEST KNITTING DESIGNER

1st Debbie Bliss
2nd Kaffe Fassett
3rd Kim Hargreaves

"I feel so privileged to have been nominated for the awards, let alone win them! It means a huge amount to me to have been voted for by the knitters as they are the people who enable my brand to go forward."

Debbie Bliss



NEW CATEGORY!

BEST BRAND FOR BRITISH YARN

1st West Yorkshire Spinners
2nd Toft Alpaca
3rd Jamieson & Smith

"We were absolutely thrilled to win the award for 'Best Brand for British Yarn'. We are extremely passionate about British wool and manufacturing, and this award shows that all the hard work is paying off. A huge thanks for all the support."

Richard Longbottom,
West Yorkshire Spinners



BEST INDEPENDENT STORE

NORTH OF ENGLAND

- 1st** Black Sheep Wools, Warrington
2nd Baa Ram Ewe, Yorkshire
3rd Purl City Yarns, Manchester

SOUTH OF ENGLAND

- 1st** Loop, Islington
2nd Get Knitted, Bristol
3rd Spin A Yarn, Bovey Tracey, Devon

"Loop is thrilled to have won this fantastic award. It acknowledges all of the passion and hard work that goes into trying to make Loop the most wonderful and inspiring shop for knitting. On behalf of all of us at Loop we thank you!"

Susan Cropper, Loop

MIDLANDS

- 1st** Knit Nottingham, Nottingham
2nd City Knits/Christine's Wool Shop, Birmingham
3rd Toft Studio Shop, Rugby

"We're absolutely thrilled to win this award for the second time running! It just goes to show how much people love our haphazard and relaxed approach, and how much we love the people that love it. Thank you!"

Eleanor Burke, Knit Nottingham



WALES

- 1st** Yarn 'n' Yarns, Penarth
2nd Clare Wool, Aberystwyth
3rd Knitters & Sewers World, Swansea

"I would like to say a huge thank you to all our customers who voted in the Awards. I am thrilled we have achieved this in our first year. Let's keep on supporting our local shops!"

Christine Richardson, Yarn 'n' Yarns

IRELAND

- 1st** This is Knit, Dublin
2nd The Textile Studio, Belfast
3rd Selections Wool Shop, Carrickfergus

"We are simply over the moon to have been voted the best yarn shop in Ireland! It's a great honour and we'd like to say a huge thank you to all our customers and to everyone who voted for us."

Lisa and Jacqui Sisk, This is Knit

SCOTLAND

- 1st** Wool for Ewe, Aberdeen
2nd The Yarn Cake, Glasgow
3rd Ginger Twist Studio, Edinburgh

"We are delighted to be voted Best Independent Yarn Shop in Scotland! The whole team at Wool for Ewe work incredibly hard and take great pride in how we help our customers. A big thank you to them for supporting us!"

Kathy, Faye and Jenni, Wool for Ewe

ONLINE

BEST ONLINE STORE

- 1st** Deramores
2nd Loveknitting
3rd Black Sheep Wools

BEST KNITTING BLOG

- 1st** Deramores
2nd Loveknitting
3rd Attic24

BEST WEBSITE

- 1st** Ravelry
2nd Deramores
3rd Loveknitting

"We are thrilled to have won these awards, and in particular to be recognised as the Best Online Store for the fourth consecutive year. We're working hard to continuously improve the experience our customers have, and the whole team at Deramores would like to thank all of our wonderful customers for voting for us again!"

Amy Last, Marketing Manager, Deramores



BEST KNITTING NEEDLE RANGE

- 1st** KnitPro
2nd Milwards
3rd Pony

BEST ACCESSORY RANGE

- 1st** KnitPro
2nd Clover
3rd Milwards



"We are thrilled to be the recipient of these two awards once again. We are indeed indebted to LK's readers who have continuously encouraged and motivated us to come out with better products and regard KnitPro as an important part of their stash!"

Shirish Jain, KnitPro

NEW CATEGORY!

BEST YARN SHOP DAY EXPERIENCE 2014

- 1st** Black Sheep Wools, Warrington
2nd The Yarn Cake, Glasgow
3rd City Knits/Christine's Wool Shop, Birmingham

"We are absolutely delighted to have won two incredible British Knitting Awards. A huge thanks to all of our wonderful customers for voting for us, and a massive well done to all of our team!"

Sara Mulvey, Black Sheep Wools



BEST KNITTING SHOW/EVENT

- 1st** The Knitting & Stitching Show, London
2nd Yarnale, Skipton
3rd Woolfest, Cumbria

BEST READY-TO-USE KNIT KITS

- 1st** Rowan
2nd The Little Knitting Company
3rd Toft Alpaca

BEST BOOK 2014

- 1st** *Knit Your Own Zoo* by Sally Muir & Joanna Osborne (Collins & Brown)
2nd *Stranded Knits* by Ann Kingstone (endorsed by Rowan)
3rd *Knitting Smitten* by Jessica Biscoe (Quadrille Publishing)

BEST CHAIN STORE

- 1st** John Lewis
2nd Hobbycraft
3rd Abakhan



Celebrate with your winners of The British Knitting Awards!

Winner - Best Brand For British Yarn



A HUGE THANK YOU
TO EVERYONE WHO VOTED FOR US

We are extremely passionate about British Wool and manufacturing and are absolutely thrilled to win this award.

2014 WINNERS

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FOR BRITISH YARN CATEGORY

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E: sales@wyspinners.com
www.wyspinners.com

Runner Up - Best Independent In Ireland

The Textile Studio
your local crafting community

I would like to say a massive thank you to all those crafters who voted for me!

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www.textilestudiobelfast.co.uk
hello@textilestudiobelfast.co.uk



Winner - Best Independent In The Midlands



As winners for two years in a row, I would like to say a huge thank you to all our loyal customers who voted for us

91 Mansfield Road, Nottingham, NG1 3FN
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Third Place - Best Independent In The North Of England

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Third Place - Best Overall Yarn Brand & Best Value Yarn Brand



Stylecraft **THANK YOU**
discover, create and enjoy

to each and every one of you who voted for Stylecraft in the British Knitting Awards – it means so much to us.

Winner/Runner up/Third Place - Best Online Store, Best Independent Yarn Brand, Best Knitting Blog, Best Website And Best Baby Yarn Brand

Thank you for voting for us!
from the team at **deramores**



Winner - Best Independent In The North Of England/Best Yarn Shop Day Experience



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Winner - Best Independent In Scotland



Wool for Two

Voted best independent wool shop for Scotland 2014

We would like to thank each and every one of you who voted for us this year, we are delighted to have won. We pride ourselves on offering a professional service in a fun and friendly atmosphere and to have our hard work and dedication recognised by you, our loyal customers, is an honour. We promise to continue being the local yarn shop you want.

Kathy,
Faye & Jenni

83-85 Rosemount Place
Aberdeen, AB25 2YE
01224 643 738
www.woolforewe.com
info@woolforewe.com



Runner Up/Third Place - Best Online Store, Best Blog & Best Website



THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR VOTING FOR US!

from the
LoveKnitting team



Winner - Best Independent In Wales

Yarn 'n' Yarns

We were thrilled to be nominated and overjoyed to have won!

We would like to thank all those who voted for us!

22 Cornerswell Road Penarth CF64 2UZ
0292 071 2097

Winner - Best Independent In Ireland



**Thank you for voting
for us as the
Best Yarn Shop in Ireland!**

We would like to offer a **10%** discount on all Irish yarn, with the code:
LKA14


Offer ends 21 Dec 2014

This is Knit, Powerscourt Townhouse, South William St, Dublin 2
(Just 3 minutes from Grafton Street!)


info@thisisknit.ie www.thisisknit.ie +353 (1) 6709981

Third Place - Best Independent In The South Of England

As an independent and specialist retailer in the far South West, Joyce Mason of Spin a Yarn is thrilled to receive such a prestigious award in such a competitive category.



Spin A Yarn



26 Fore St, Bovey Tracey, Devon TQ13 9AD
Tel: 01626 836203
www.spinayarndevon.co.uk

Third Place - Best Brand For British Yarn



Jamieson & Smith would like to thank everyone who voted and for choosing real Shetland wool

www.shetlandwoolbrokers.co.uk

*The LK Team would like to
congratulate all the winners and
thank all those who voted this
year, with a record breaking
number of votes!*

BRITISH Knitting AWARDS

Mobile cosy: 11.5cm x 9cm

Knit Kit

Yarn: **Jeury Bluefaced**
Leicester Ice Cream DK,
E-reader cosy: (A) shade 25
Clotted Cream, (B) shade
28 Cherry, one 50g ball of
each, Mobile cosy:
(C) shade 27 Lavender,
(D) shade 30 Blackberry,
one 50g ball of each

Needles: 3.25mm, 4.5mm

Tension Square

20 sts x 28 rows
10cm x 10cm
stocking stitch
4.5mm needles

FOR ABBREVIATIONS SEE PAGE 92

About the Yarn

Juey Bluefaced
Leicester Ice
Cream DK is a
100% wool yarn
that's reared, sheared and
spun in Britain. It comes
in six pretty shades.



Need an Alternative?

Debbie Bliss Blue
Faced Leicester
DK is another
pure British wool
yarn available in over 20
different colours, great
for adding a personal
touch to your cosy.



Let's Shop

**Juey Bluefaced
Leicester Ice
Cream DK costs
£4.50 per 50g (65m) ball
from www.juey.co.uk**



Debbie Bliss Blue
Faced Leicester
 DK costs **£5.95**
per 50g (108m) ball
from 01782 862332,
www.cucumberpatch.com



Digital Heart

*Knit your gadget-loving friends one of these woolly cosies by **Julie Arnfield-Crowther***

There's nothing better than giving those close to you a handmade present at Christmas. Whether they're a bookworm or someone who can't live without their phone, they're sure to adore these easy-make heart patterned holders. Soft to touch and made to fit standard size devices, they're worked entirely in stocking stitch, making them a simple project for any knitter!

Start knitting here

E-READER HOLDER PANEL

(make two)

Using 4.5mm needles and yarn A,
cast on 48 sts

- ☐ Work ten rows from Chart
- ☐ Rep Chart four times more or until long enough to fit e-reader
- ☐ Beg with a k row, work two rows in st st

Change to 3.25mm needles

- ☐ Next row: * k1, p1, rep from * to end
- ☐ Rep last row five times more
- ☐ Cast off in rib

To make up

Place two panels together with RS facing. Back stitch from right side

knitwise

Chart Away

Knitting charts are ideal for projects that use two or more different colours. They usually begin in the lower right-hand corner, with right side rows being read right to left, and wrong side rows being read left to right. Starting with the bottom row, work your way up the chart until you complete the last row. If your pattern asks you to repeat the chart, simply start from the beginning again.

seam down, across base and up
left side

MOBILE HOLDER PANEL

(make two)

Using 4.5mm needles and yarn A,
cast on 36 sts

- ☐ Work ten rows from Chart
- ☐ Rep Chart once more or until

long enough to fit mobile

- ☐ Starting with a k row, work two rows in st st
- Change to 3.25mm needles
- ☐ Next row: * k1, p1, rep from * to end
- ☐ Rep last row five times more
- ☐ Cast off

To make up

Work as e-reader holder **LK**



10	x x x x x x x x	x x x x x x x x	x x x x x x x x	x x x x x x x x	x x x x x x x x
8	x x x x x x x x	x x x x x x x x	x x x x x x x x	x x x x x x x x	x x x x x x x x
6	x x x x x x	x x x x x x	x x x x x x	x x x x x x	x x x x x x
4					
2					
	Ren for E-reader	Phone			Start

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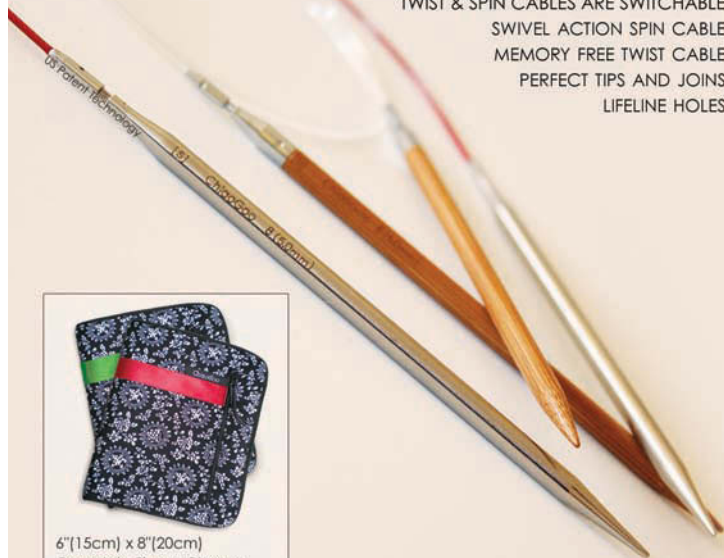
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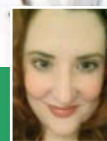
Season's Greetings

Give a card with a twist with these three designs from Nicola Valiji

Elevate the humble greetings card with these brilliant two-in-one makes. As well as getting a handmade card, your friends and family will be delighted to receive a special knitted decoration to hang in their home. There are three jolly designs to choose from: a wreath, a Christmas tree and a stocking. They're great for beginners and they're quick to knit so why not make all three?

EXCLUSIVE TO
Let's
knit

Toppers that double as gifts!



meet our
DESIGNER

"This project is a handmade card and gift all in one. It's great for using up small amounts of spare yarn and your friends will appreciate a decoration that can be used year after year!"

NICOLA VALIJI

Measurements & Sizes

Stocking: 13.5cm tall x 9.5cm wide

Tree: 17.5cm tall x 10cm wide

Wreath: 10.5cm diameter

Knit Kit

Yarn: Hayfield Bonus DK, (A) shade 977 Signal Red, (B) shade 916 Emerald, (C) shade 927 Walnut, (D) shade 961 White, one 50g ball of each

Needles: 3.5mm

Tapestry needle

Pompoms: 2.5cm diameter, six

Toy stuffing

Stitch holder

Ribbon: gingham, 2cm x 2m

Card blanks: white, 13cm x 18cm

Sticky pads

Paper: patterned

FOR ABBREVIATIONS SEE PAGE 92

About the Yarn

Hayfield Bonus DK is a versatile acrylic yarn that comes in 50g and 100g balls and is available in a brilliant range of bright and classic shades. Please note, only 25g of each shade is required for these cards.

Need an Alternative?

These cards make great stash-busting projects. Just use 25g of DK yarn from your collection.

Let's Shop

Hayfield Bonus DK costs 99p per 50g (140m) ball from 01803 524402, www.knittingwoolandyarn.co.uk

Start knitting here

STOCKING

Using 3.5mm needles and yarn A, cast on 42 sts

- ☐ Beg with a k row, work in st st for 4cm, ending after a RS row
- ☐ Cast off eight sts at beg of next two rows. 26 sts
- ☐ Cont in st st until work meas 9cm from cast-on edge
- Cut yarn A, join in yarn D
- ☐ K eight rows
- ☐ Cast off

To make up

Fold Stocking with right sides together and sew around side edge using backstitch, leaving top edge open. Tie a ribbon bow and sew to front of stocking. Cut 16cm length of ribbon, fold in in half and sew to back of Stocking

TREE FRONT AND BACK

(alike)

Using 3.5mm needles and yarn B, cast on 24 sts

- ☐ Rows 1-5: k
- ☐ Row 6: k2tog, k to last two sts, k2tog. 22 sts

"These decorations are so quick to knit, why not whip up a set for your own Christmas tree too?"

LK Deputy Editor **Adrienne Chandler**

- ☐ Rep last six rows until 12 sts rem
- ☐ K three rows
- ☐ Next row: k2tog, k to last two sts, k2tog. Ten sts
- ☐ Rep last four rows once more. Eight sts
- ☐ K two rows
- ☐ Next row: k2tog, k to last two sts, k2tog. Six sts
- ☐ Rep last three rows once more. Four sts
- ☐ K one row
- ☐ Next row: (k2tog) twice. Two sts
- ☐ Next row: k2tog. One st
- ☐ Fasten off

TRUNK

Using 3.5mm needles and yarn C, cast on 12 sts

- ☐ Beg with a k row, work five rows in st st
- ☐ Cast off

To make up

With right sides together, sew row-ends of Front and Back pieces using back stitch, leaving a gap at bottom for stuffing. Turn right way out and stuff firmly. Sew seam of Trunk. Position seam at centre back, flatten bottom edge and sew. Lightly stuff, then sew closed, catching top of Trunk in base of Tree. Decorate Tree with mini pompoms. Cut a 16cm length of ribbon, fold it in half and sew to back of Tree

WREATH

Using 3.5mm needles and yarn B, cast on 60 sts

- ☐ Beg with k row, work 16 rows in st st
- ☐ Cast off



EASY TREE DECS

To make up

Sew cast-on and cast-off edges together, leaving row ends open for stuffing. Stuff tube, then sew row ends together to make a ring. Wrap gingham ribbon around Wreath using photo as a guide. Cut 16cm length of ribbon, fold it in half and sew to back of Wreath

GREETINGS CARDS

Trim coloured paper 1cm smaller than front of card blank on all sides, stick to card in centre. Affix sticky pads to backs of knitted decorations and adhere in centre of card **LK**

knitwise

Sew simple

Although these items are quick to knit, remember to take your time when sewing up. The Christmas tree panels are sewn together using backstitch. This is worked with the WS facing outwards and produces a strong, secure join. Work as close to the edge as possible to avoid a bulky seam. Pay close attention when sewing the cast-on and cast-off edges of the Wreath, as this join will be visible in the centre.



Introducing

Mr Potts Ceramics Yarn Bowls!

Hand crafted by Mr Potts himself, with an extensive range of colours and designs. Perfect for keeping safe those yarns for all your knitting and crochet projects



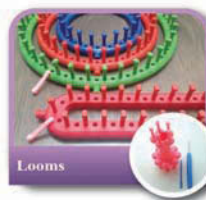
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Know your FIBRES

Find out more about your favourite yarns!

Yarn comes in many varieties and as knitters, it's important to have an understanding and appreciation of the materials we use. There's more to choosing a yarn than just liking the colour and this handy guide will break down some of the need-to-know facts about different fibres to help you source the best yarn for your project. We've also included a few more unusual blends to tempt you to try something new!

WOOL

Sheep adorn fields and countrysides across the world and these humble creatures have been providing us with beautiful wool for thousands of years. One of the things that makes it so popular is its elasticity or 'crimp'. It will hold its shape when stretched and won't become brittle or break. There are so many sheep breeds out there and different breeds produce wool that is suited to different projects.

Soft and smooth yarns are usually made of fibres where the individual strands have a smaller diameter; this is known as the micron count. A micron is equal to one millionth of a metre. They may also have a longer staple – that's the length of the fibre. Long staples can be spun more tightly and will have fewer sticking out fibres, which can make the yarn feel tickly.

Here in Britain, we are so lucky to have a huge number of brilliant breeds. Bluefaced Leicester is wonderfully soft against the skin and will certainly dispel any myths of 'scratchy British wool'. One of the finest fleeces is from merino sheep (right), now most commonly found in Australia. These sheep produce really thick fleeces, so are bred especially for their wool.



Most people are sensitive to the lanolin in wool, rather than the wool itself

SHOPPING LIST



Available in natural, dyed or variegated shades, **West Yorkshire Spinners Bluefaced Leicester** comes in DK or aran weight. Prices start with an RRP of £4.85 per 50g (112m) ball. For stockists: **01535 664500, www.wyspinners.com**

New for AW14/15, **Patons Merino Extrafine Big** is a bright, bold yarn that is soft, smooth and fabulously chunky. It costs £3.95 per (50g) 40m ball from **01829 740903, www.laughinghens.com**



Merino is such a soft fibre it can be even worn by those with super sensitive skin. **Katia Merino Baby** is a 4ply yarn that's perfect for little ones. It has an RRP of £4.35 per 50g (165m) ball. For stockists: **www.katia.com**



Available in over 200 shades, **Jamieson's of Shetland Spindrift** is a classic British wool that's close to a 4ply in tension, and is great for Fair Isle and vintage knits. £2.90 per 25g (105m) ball from **01595 693114, www.jamiesonsofshetland.co.uk**



Born, bred and made in Yorkshire, **Wendy Ramsdale DK** is a pure wool yarn blended from Masham fleece from local sheep. It costs £3.74 per 50g (112m) ball from **0117 300 5211, www.getknitted.com**

ALPACA

Part of the camelid family that also includes camels and llamas, alpacas produce a soft yarn that has a gentle fuzzy halo. Known by the Peruvian Incas as the fibre of the Gods, it has impressive thermo-regulating properties. The hollow fibres of the individual strands keep the animals warm in the winter and cool in the summer. It is also light to wear and comes in a great range of natural colours, including a true black.



Although native to South America, alpacas are thriving in Britain. Devon-based company UK Alpaca not only breeds the animals, but spins fleeces from around the country. They blend the fibre with British Bluefaced Leicester, silk and merino to produce soft and cosy yarns.

UK Superfine Alpaca DK (above) blends 70% alpaca with 30% Bluefaced Leicester. Prices from £5.95 per 50g (112m) ball from **01884 243579**, www.ukalpaca.com



CASHMERE

Cashmere comes from the downy undercoat of a goat and is luxuriously soft. Any goat can produce cashmere, but what we know as 'cashmere goats' have been selectively bred for centuries to grow a thicker coat. Some of the world's best cashmere comes from China and Mongolia where the harsh climate makes the coats particularly fine. Unlike sheep, the goats moult naturally; the undercoat is then combed to retrieve the soft fibres, which are spun into beautiful yarns.

CashmeRED sells its own 3ply yarn made from 100% cashmere fibre. It's buttery soft and comes in a pretty palette of 21 shades. It can be used for hand or machine knitting and produces a light fabric with a lovely drape. There is also a range of supporting patterns for adults, babies and children.

CashmeRED 3ply Pure Cashmere (above) costs £12.95 per 25g (160m) ball from **01242 256797**, www.cashmered.net



COTTON

Plant fibres also have impressive properties which make them great for yarn craft projects. Cotton is really fluffy when harvested. You can tease it between your fingers and it can be spun in a similar way to wool. The fibre is very versatile and has excellent stitch definition so it shows off textured patterns really well. As it is heavier than most animal fibres, cotton drapes beautifully.



One of its great advantages is that it is cool to wear, making it a popular choice for summer projects. The natural wicking properties draw moisture away from the skin. It takes dye particularly well, so you can create some fantastic effects, as shown in this yarn from Little Boo (above). Hand-dyed in Nottingham, it comes in solid or variegated colourways.



Little Boo's cotton yarns cost £15 per 100g (184m) skein from **01484 722662**, www.baabaabrighthouse.co.uk

BAMBOO

It's hard to imagine that something so wood-like in appearance can create such soft, silky yarns, but the cellulose from the plant can be extracted to produce a viscose which is used in textiles manufacturing. You will often see the term, 'bamboo-sourced viscose,' which is a more accurate description of the process.

Like other plant-based fibres, bamboo is cool against the skin and has good stitch definition. It has a natural sheen, is smooth to knit with and, as it is a relatively weighty fibre, has an elegant drape. King Cole blends bamboo-sourced viscose with cotton fibres in its popular Bamboo Cotton range and this makes it more lightweight to wear.



King Cole Bamboo Cotton comes in 4ply and DK weights, and in solid or self-patterning colour options. Prices start from £4.49 per 100g (230m) ball from **0800 505 3300**, www.woolwarehouse.co.uk

MOHAIR

There's a lot more to mohair than cheesy 80s sweaters! Made from the fleeces of angora goats, it is one of the lightest and softest fibres around. As the individual hairs are so smooth, they are also quite slippery, so are often blended with other fibres, like silk or wool, to give the yarns more stability. The yarn is fabulously fluffy, which not only gives it a great texture but makes it really cosy to wear while remaining super lightweight.



Mohair yarns are great for a wide range of garments, particularly trans-seasonal knits. You can use a larger needle than recommended to achieve a really light and airy texture.

Rowan Mohair Haze (above) is a 4ply yarn that blends 70% mohair with 30% wool. It costs £5.85 per 25g (102m) ball from **01422 884885**, www.attica-yarns.co.uk

MANMADE FIBRES

The mass production of man-made fibres began in the 1950s and, for the first time, allowed knitters to benefit from easy-care yarns. Since then, the industry has produced a wide range of synthetic alternatives, including acrylic, nylon, polyamide, polyester and courtelle. They all have different properties; some are super soft, making them great for baby knits, while others are really hard-wearing and suitable for projects like socks and bags.



Manmade yarns take colour particularly well so it's possible to achieve a vast range of bold and bright shades and effects, including fluorescents. This makes them



especially popular for toy knitting and projects for babies and children. Cygnet offers a great selection of manmade yarns and blends. Find out more at www.cygnetyarns.com

Cygnet DK (above) is an acrylic yarn that's available in more than 40 shades. It costs £1.70 per 100g (298m) ball from **01789 768682**, www.cosywool.co.uk

SILK

Although similar in appearance to some plant fibres, silk actually comes from the cocoons of silkworms – they're not worms as we know them, but the caterpillar of a silkworm. The two main types of silk are mulberry and tussah, which are produced by different moths. The caterpillars eat leaves and the nutrients from these leaves are absorbed, enabling the caterpillar to spin a cocoon of silk.



Mulberry silk is naturally white, smooth and very fine, while tussah silk is a golden colour, subtly textured, and being thicker, is also stronger. Silk can be mixed with wool, alpaca and plant-based fibres to add a drape and flow to your projects.



Berge de France Soie is a pure silk yarn that comes in nine elegant shades. It costs £12.56 per 50g (115m) ball from **01273 508768**, www.cocoonknits.co.uk

TRY SOMETHING NEW

Check out these other interesting fibres and blends!

1 Lang Yak is a 50/50 mix of superfine merino and yak fibres. It's a super cosy aran weight yarn that costs £7.95 per 50g (130m) ball from **0845 226 8146**, www.art yarn.co.uk

2 Shilasdair Handspun Baby Camel is so soft and snuggly; the yarns are also hand-dyed. It costs £26 per 100g (220m) skein from **01470 592297**, www.theskieshildairshop.co.uk

3 Arctic Quiviut 100% is an amazingly luxurious fibre that is combed from the undercoat of the musk ox. Prices from £82.61 per 26g skein from **01626 836203**, www.spinayarndevon.co.uk

4 Banana Silk is made from the cellulose of a banana plant and produces a strong, glossy fibre with a subtle texture. Prices from £3.50 per 100g (73m) skein from **01383 223008**, www.ethniccrafts.co.uk

5 Perran Yarns Silk and Seacell is a 4ply yarn that blends 70% silk with 30% seacell, which comes from seaweed! It costs £26 per 100g (400m) skein from **01326 564211**, www.gorgeousyarns.co.uk



THE Bookshelf

Our pick of the best current books, blogs and more!



MODERN CROCHET

Molla Mills (£20, Jacqui Small Publishing)

Full of bold, 60s-style monochrome designs paired with fresh pastel projects, Modern Crochet is a brilliant resource for both budding and advanced crocheters who want to experiment with the craft. The hardcover book feels luxurious just to hold in your hands, and contains sections on homewares, accessories, and an interesting technique called "pixel crochet". Molla Mills also provides in-depth step-by-step photos for each project, and the book is full

of extra tips and advice to make it as accessible as possible.

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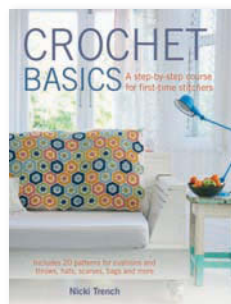
KNITTING SCANDINAVIAN STYLE

Arne and Carlos (£8.99, Search Press)

Celebrated for their quirky designs and playful books, Arne and Carlos are an international dream team! For their newest title, they have delved deeper into the Scandinavian influences of their heritage, focusing particularly on the traditional sweaters of Setesdal in Norway and redesigning them for a contemporary

audience. The book is a fascinating insight into the traditions and history of Scandinavian knitting, with beautiful photography, in-depth descriptions, and patterns that will have you itching to start your next colourwork project!

www.searchpress.com



CROCHET BASICS

Nicki Trench (£14.99, CICO Books)

As crochet continues to soar in popularity, you may be wondering how to take your skills to the next level. Luckily, Nicki Trench is here to help. Her latest book divides into 20 detailed technique workshops each with a corresponding project, plus a guide to basic skills such as getting started, blocking, and reading a

pattern. The homeware items really stand out, with several sumptuous blankets and quirky smaller patterns such as this delightful daisy bunting. You will also find garments, accessories and even an adorable pair of bears!

www.rylandpeters.com



We also **LOVE...**



WTF KITS

Gabrielle Grillo and Lucy Sweet (£9.99, Bantam Press)

Get inspired by this baffling collection of the most bizarre and hilarious knits from all over the world, and check out

an author interview on our blog!

www.randomhouse.co.uk

Turn to p85 to win one of eight copies!

BLOG REBECCA L. ATHERTON

rebeccalatherton.wordpress.com



Rebecca is an artist who not only knits, but writes, embroiders and sews. Follow her blog for a detailed insight into her creative process, and some truly inspirational knitting projects. Go to www.letsknit.co.uk for a guest blog coming soon!

Pick up a skill!



BRIOCHE CHIC

Mercedes Tarasovich-Clark (£17.99, Interweave)

Learn brioche knitting, a unique ribbing structure which creates a stunning textured

effect. It looks fabulous with colourwork, and can even be used for double-sided cables - ideal for scarves and other accessories!

www.interweavestore.com

Sea Breeze

Bring the ocean into your everyday life with a teal cushion cover by Julie Ferguson

EXCLUSIVE TO
Let's
knit

There's nothing quite as calming as the gentle currents of maritime air, and with this three-striped chevron accessory you can now bring serenity into the heart of your home. Knitted predominantly in stocking stitch, this is a simple project that will add a splash of colour to any bed or living room. It's also crafted using superwash wool, so there's no need to worry about it getting dirty!



meet our
DESIGNER

"Sea breeze is given extra texture by working the coloured stripes in reverse stocking stitch. It's simple but very effective."

JULIE FERGUSON

Measurements & sizes

45cm x 45cm

Knit Kit

Yarn: Artesano Superwash Merino DK, (A) shade 6701 Dark Teal, (B) shade 5167 Teal, (C) shade SFN10 Cream, one 50g ball of each

Needles: 4mm

Buttons: six

Cushion Pad: 40cm x 40cm

Tapestry Needle

Tension Square

22 sts x 30 rows
10cm x 10cm
stocking stitch
4mm needles

FOR ABBREVIATIONS SEE PAGE 92

About the Yarn

Artesano Superwash Merino DK is a 100% merino wool yarn. It comes in 18 different colours, from brights to more muted tones, all of which can be machine washed.

Need an Alternative?

Debbie Bliss Rialto DK is another pure merino yarn. Available in over 40 colours, you're sure to find one suitable for personalising your cushion cover!

Let's Shop

Artesano Superwash Merino DK costs £4.25 per 50g (112m) ball from www.thewoolloft.co.uk

Debbie Bliss Rialto DK costs £5.25 per 50g (105m) ball from 01376 743123, www.sconchtextiles.co.uk

Start knitting here

BACK

Using 4mm needles and yarn A, cast on 87 sts

□ Rows 1-4: beg with a k row, work in st st

□ ** Row 5: k2, * yfwd, k5, k3tog, k5, yfwd, k1, rep from * to last st, k1

□ Rows 6-7: beg with a p row, work in st st

□ Row 8: k

□ Rows 9-12: rep Rows 5-8

□ Rows 13-15: rep Rows 5-7

Cut yarn A and change to yarn B

□ Row 16: p

□ Rows 17-20: beg with a p row, work in st st

Cut yarn B and change to yarn A

□ Rows 21-31: rep Rows 5-15

Cut yarn A and change to yarn C

□ Row 32: p

□ Rows 33-36: beg with a p row, work in st st

Cut yarn C and change to yarn A

□ Rep Rows 5-36 three times more

Cut yarn C and change to yarn A

□ Rep Rows 5-15

□ Beg with a p row, work three rows in st st **

FRONT

Using 4mm needles and yarn A, cast on 87 sts

□ Rows 1-2: beg with a k row, work in st st

□ Row 3: k7, * cast off three sts, k10, rep from * four times more, cast off three sts, k7

□ Row 4: p7, * cast on three sts, p10, rep from * four times more, cast on three sts, p7

These rows create scalloped buttonholes

□ Work as Back from ** to **

To make up

Block Front and Back to cushion pad (see page 93). Sew three sides of cushion without buttonholes together. Sew on buttons to correspond with buttonholes **LK**

"Add your own individual touch to your cushion by choosing different coloured yarns – try just one solid shade, or several brighter ones!"

LK Editorial Assistant **Molly Todd**



knitwise

Button up

The last thing you want on your finished piece is wonky buttons! Make sure you use sewing thread as opposed to the project yarn, and double your thread so it's quicker to sew and twice as strong. Don't be afraid to sew into the yarn strands, either – if you try to secure your button by sewing around the strands, the button will be unstable and will pull the stitch out of shape.





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Midnight Hues

This cute cabled jumper is a great way of keeping warm and cosy on long winter evenings!

We love the amazing effects produced by this chunky yarn from James C. Brett! The easy pattern is a great way of practising cables, and the raglan sleeves are a classic garment construction for knitters who haven't tried such a big project before. Why not buy the yarn for this project from your local yarn shop? Call 01274 565959, or go to www.jamescbrett.co.uk for stockists.

"There are over 45 colourways available in this yarn, so make sure you choose one that's right for you!"

LK Editorial Assistant Amy Adams

Measurements & Sizes

Size (approx):
4-6 (8-10, 12-14, 16-18, 20-22)

To fit bust (cm):
71-76 (81-86, 91-97, 102-107, 112-117)

Actual bust (cm):
91 (103, 112, 123, 132)

Approx length (cm):
49 (51, 53, 55, 57)

Sleeve length (cm):
43 (46, 46, 47, 48)

Knit Kit

Yarn: James C. Brett Marble Chunky shade MC42, 2 (2, 3, 3) 200g balls

Needles: 5mm, 6mm

Cable needle

Stitch holders

Tapestry needle

Tension Square

14 sts x 20 rows
10cm x 10cm
rev st st
6mm needles

FOR ABBREVIATIONS SEE PAGE 92

Special Abbreviations

C6B: slip next three sts onto cn and hold at back of work, k3, then k3 from cn

C6F: slip next three sts onto cn and hold at front of work, k3, then k3 from cn

About the Yarn

James C. Brett Marble Chunky is a 100% premium acrylic yarn which comes in generous 200g balls. The variegated colour effects produce a gorgeous style which works with both fancy stitches and plain stocking stitch.

Let's Shop

James C. Brett Marble Chunky has an RRP of £5.99 per 200g (312m) ball. Visit www.jamescbrett.co.uk or call 01274 565959 to find a stockist near you.

Start knitting here

FRONT

Using 5mm needles, cast on 74 (82, 90, 98, 106) sts

☐ Row 1: * k2, p2, rep from * to last two sts, k2

☐ Row 2: * p2, k2, rep from * to last two sts, p2

Rows 1-2 set 2x2 rib

☐ Rows 3-9: work in 2x2 rib

☐ Row 10: p21 (25, 11, 15, 2), p2tog, [p28 (28, 20, 20, 18), p2tog] 1 (1, 3, 3, 5) times, p21 (25, 11, 15, 2). 72 (80, 86, 94, 100) sts

CABLE PATTERN

Change to 6mm needles and work Cable Patt as follows:

☐ Row 11: p14 (18, 21, 25, 28), k12, p20, k12, p14 (18, 21, 25, 28)

☐ Row 12: k14 (18, 21, 25, 28), p12, k20, p12, k14 (18, 21, 25, 28)

☐ Row 13: p14 (18, 21, 25, 28), C6B, C6F, p20, C6B, C6F, p14 (18, 21, 25, 28)

☐ Row 14: k14 (18, 21, 25, 28), p12, k20, p12, k14 (18, 21, 25, 28)

☐ Rows 15-18: rep Rows 11-12 twice

☐ Row 19: p14 (18, 21, 25, 28), C6F, C6B, p20, C6F, C6B, p14 (18, 21, 25, 28)

☐ Row 20: as Row 12

☐ Row 21: as Row 11

☐ Row 22: k14 (18, 21, 25, 28), p12, k20, p12, k14 (18, 21, 25, 28)

Rows 11-22 set rev st st and cable panels

☐ Work patt as set (throughout) until Front meas 30cm, ending after a WS row

SHAPE RAGLANS

☐ Cast off five sts in patt at beg of next two rows. 62 (70, 76, 84, 90) sts

☐ Work 4 (8, 10, 12, 14) rows dec one st at each end of every row.

54 (54, 56, 60, 62) sts

☐ Work 12 (12, 14, 16, 18) rows dec one st at each end of next and every foll alt row. 42 (42, 42, 44, 44) sts

SHAPE NECK

☐ Next row: patt2tog, patt 9, turn, leave rem 31 (31, 31, 33, 33) sts on a holder

Working on these ten sts only cont as follows:

☐ Next row: work in patt without shaping

☐ Work two rows dec one st at raglan edge on first row **AT THE**

SAME TIME dec one st at neck edge on both rows. Seven sts

☐ Work three rows dec one st at each end of next and foll alt row. Three sts

☐ Next row: k

☐ Next row: p2tog, p1. Two sts

☐ Next row: k2tog. One st

☐ Fasten off

☐ With RS facing, working on rem 31 (31, 31, 33, 33) sts, sl 20 (20, 20, 22, 22) sts on to a holder, rejoin yarn to rem 11 sts and patt to last two sts, patt2tog. Ten sts

☐ Next row: work in patt

☐ Work two rows dec one st at neck edge on both rows **AT THE SAME TIME** dec one st at raglan edge on first row. Seven sts

☐ Work three rows dec one st at each end of next and foll alt row. Three sts

☐ Next row: k

☐ Next row: p1, p2tog. Two sts

☐ Next row: k2tog. One st

☐ Fasten off

BACK

Using 5mm needles, cast on 74 (82, 90, 98, 106) sts

☐ Rows 1-9: work in 2x2 rib as for Front

☐ Row 10: p0 (4, 0, 4, 0), p2tog, [p6, p2tog] 9 (9, 11, 11, 13) times, p0 (4, 0, 4, 0). 64 (72, 78, 86, 92) sts

Change to 6mm needles

☐ Working in rev st st (throughout) cont until Back meas 30cm, ending after a WS row

SHAPE RAGLANS

☐ Cast off five sts at beg of next two rows. 54 (62, 68, 76, 82) sts

SECOND, THIRD, FOURTH AND FIFTH SIZES ONLY

☐ Work - (4, 6, 8, 10) rows dec one st at each end of every row. - (54, 56, 60, 62) sts

ALL SIZES

☐ Work 26 (26, 28, 30, 32) rows dec one st at each end of next and every foll alt row. 28 (28, 28, 30, 30) sts

☐ Cast off

SLEEVES

(make two)

Using 5mm needles, cast on 38 (38, 38, 42, 42) sts

☐ Rows 1-11: work in 2x2 rib as for Front

☐ Row 12: p3 (4, 4, 5, 5), p2tog, [p3 (5, 5, 3, 3), p2tog] 6 (4, 4, 6, 6) times, p3 (4, 4, 5, 5). 31 (33, 33, 35, 35) sts

Change to 6mm needles

☐ Working in rev st st (throughout) work 65 (71, 69, 69, 75) rows inc one st at each end of fifth and every foll 10th (11th, 8th, 8th, 7th) row. 45 (47, 51, 53, 57) sts

☐ Cont without shaping until Sleeve meas 43 (46, 46, 47, 48) cm, ending after a WS row

knitwise

Stitched up

Finishing a knitted garment is an incredible feeling – once you've knitted all the pieces you'll be desperate to start wearing it as soon as possible! But slow down; after all that work, you don't want to rush the final stages, and it makes such a difference when your seams have been sewn up neatly and carefully. Use mattress stitch to create a strong, even join which will keep your new jumper intact for years to come. Turn to page 95 for illustrated instructions.



SHAPE RAGLAN SLEEVE

☐ Cast off five sts at beg of next two rows. 35 (37, 41, 43, 47) sts

☐ Work 12 (16, 16, 20, 20) rows dec one st at each end of next and every foll fourth row.

29 (29, 33, 33, 37) sts

☐ Work 14 (14, 18, 18, 22) rows dec one st at each end of next and every foll alt row. 15 sts

☐ Cast off



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NECKBAND

Join raglan seams leaving left back
raglan open

□ Using 5mm needles and with RS
facing, pick up and k 15 sts from
top of left Sleeve, ten sts evenly
along left side of neck, work across
20 (20, 20, 22, 22) sts left on a
holder at front of neck as
folls: [k0 (0, 0, 1, 1), k2tog, (k4,
k2tog) three times, k0 (0, 0, 1, 1)],
pick up and k ten sts evenly along
right side of neck, 15 sts from top
of right Sleeve and 28 (28, 28, 30,

30) sts from cast-off sts at back of
neck. 94 (94, 94, 98, 98) sts

- Next row: k
- Work five rows in 2x2 rib
- Next row: p2 (2, 2, 4, 4), p2tog,
[p6, p2tog] 11 times, p2 (2, 2, 4, 4).
82 (82, 82, 86, 86) sts
- Work six rows in st st
- Cast off

To make up

Join left back raglan and Neckband
seams, reversing sewing for rollback.
Join side and Sleeve seams **LK**

James C. Brett

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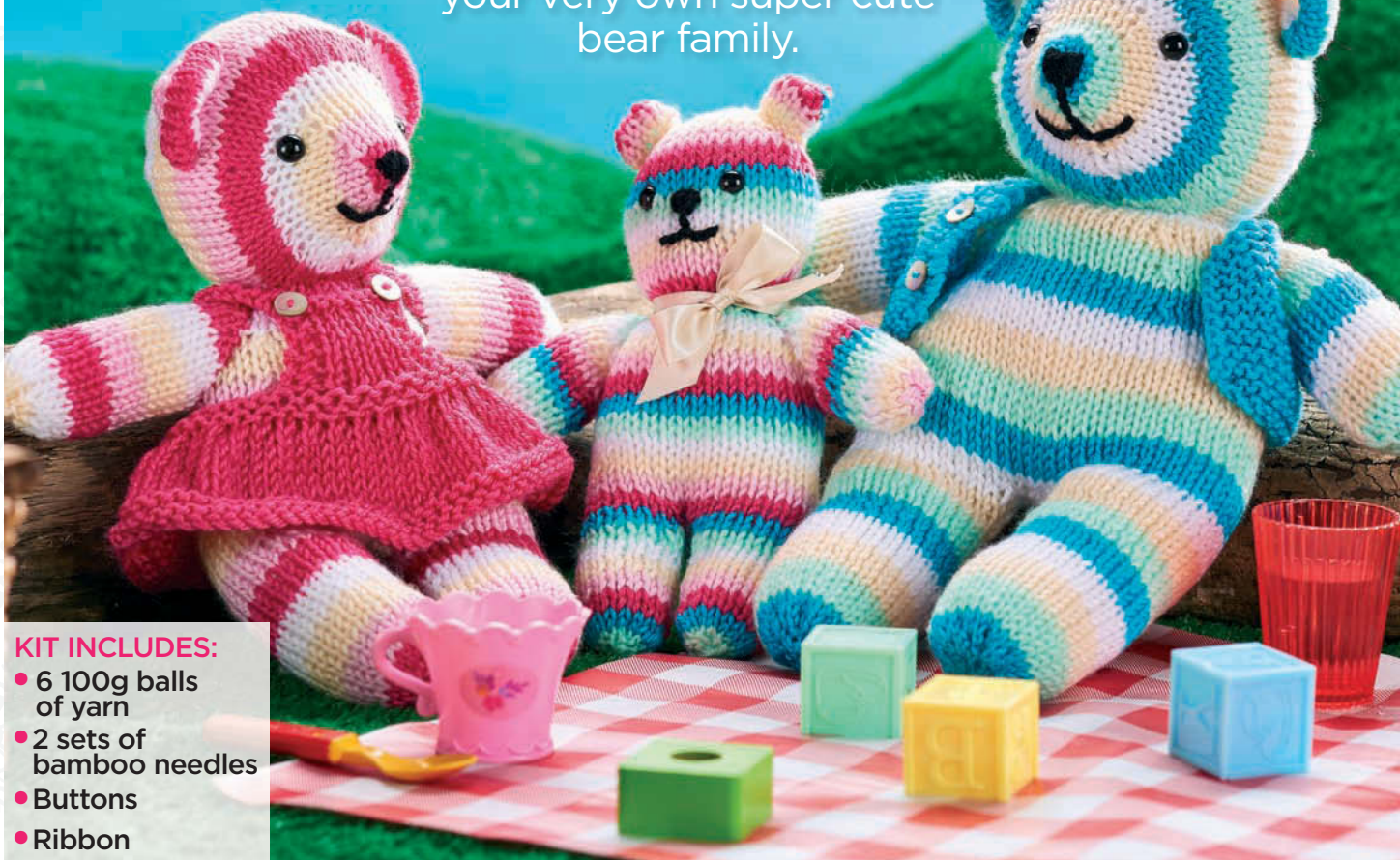
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Wandering Star

*We love this bright and bold baby set from **Monica Russel***

Regular readers of LK will know how much we love to see babies in cheerful colourways, and **this striking hat and cardi combo certainly ticks all the right boxes.** The star motifs use the Fair Isle method of stranding the yarns across the back of the work – just remember not to pull them too tightly on the hat as you'll need it to stretch.



meet our
DESIGNER

"This little set is fun and easy to wear, and the yarn is machine washable, which is a bonus. I have cut off 2m lengths of yarn to work the Fair Isle stars on the front of the cardigan and the hat to avoid too much stranding."

MONICA RUSSEL

Measurements & sizes

To fit age approx (mths):
3-6 (6-12, 12-18)

Actual chest (cm):
44 (48, 54)

Sleeve length (cm):
15 (18, 21)

Length from shoulder (cm):
23 (26, 29)

Knit Kit

Yarn: West Yorkshire Spinners Signature 4ply, (A) shade Blackcurrant Bomb, 1 (2, 2) 100g balls, (B) shade Sour Apple, (C) shade Blueberry Bonbon, (D) shade Penny Royal, one 100g ball of each

Needles: 3mm, 3.25mm

Buttons: 5 (5, 6)

Tapestry needle

Tension Square

28 sts x 36 rows
10cm x 10cm
stocking stitch
3.25mm needles

FOR ABBREVIATIONS SEE PAGE 92

About the Yarn

West Yorkshire Spinners Signature 4ply is made of 75% British wool and 25% nylon. It's produced right here in the UK and comes in a lovely palette of bright, muted or variegated colourways.



Need an Alternative?

Natural fibres work best for colourwork, so try a pure wool like Debbie Bliss Rialto 4ply. This superwash merino yarn comes in 24 shades.

Let's Shop

West Yorkshire Spinners Signature 4ply has an RRP of £7.20 per 100g (400m) ball. For stockists: 01535 664500, www.wyspinners.com
Debbie Bliss Rialto 4ply costs £5.50 per 50g (180m) ball from 01829 740903, www.laughinghens.com



Start knitting here

CARDIGAN BACK

Using 3mm needles and yarn A cast on 62 (68, 76) sts
□ Row 1: k each st tbl
□ Rows 2-5: *k1, p1, rep from * to end
Change to 3.25mm needles and st st
□ Beg with a k row, work two rows in st st ***

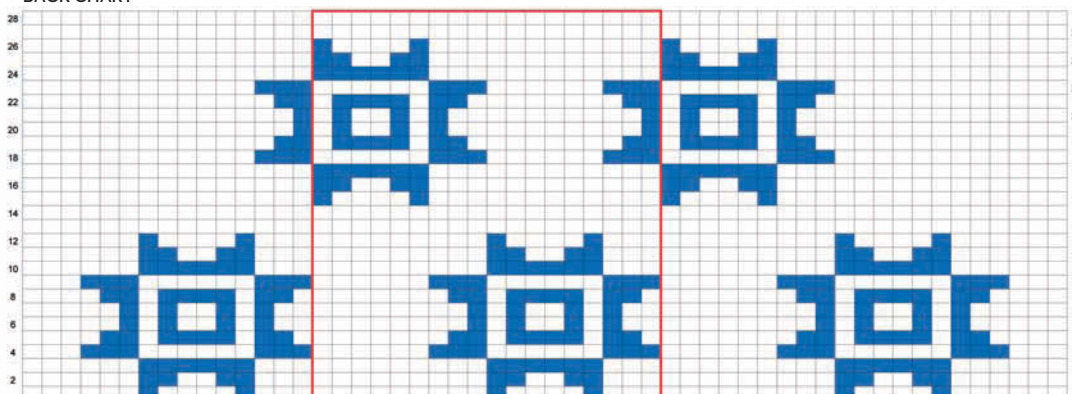
NOTE: letter foll each instruction indicates yarn shade

- Next row: k1 (0, 0) A, *k3 B, k1 A, rep from * to last 1 (0, 0) sts, k1 (0, 0) A
- Next row: p1 (0, 0) A, *p1 A, p3 B, rep from * to last 1 (0, 0) sts, p1 (0, 0) A
- Next row: k2 (1, 1) A, *k1 B, k3 A, rep from * to last 0 (3, 3) sts, k0 (1, 1) B, k0 (2, 2) A
- Beg with a p row, work three rows in st st
- Set Star patt as folls:
 - Next row: k4 (7, 2) A, using yarn C for motif, work Row 1 of Chart, rep red box 0 (0, 1) times across row giving 3 (3, 4) stars in total, k4 (7, 2) A
 - Keeping positioning correct, cont working from Chart until Chart Row 14 is complete
 - Next row: k4 (7, 2) A, using yarn B for motif, work Row 15 of Chart, rep red box 0 (0, 1) times across row giving 2 (2, 3) stars in total, k4 (7, 2) A
 - Keeping positioning correct, cont until Chart is complete
 - Rep Rows 1-28 of Chart once more using yarn D for row of 3 (3, 4) stars and yarn C for row of 2 (2, 3) stars
 - Cont in yarn A only until work meas 23 (26, 29) cm, ending after a p row
 - Next row: cast off 19 (21, 24) sts, k centre 24 (26, 28) sts, place these 24 (26, 28) sts on a holder, cast off rem 19 (21, 24) sts

KEY

- k on RS p on WS
- pattern repeat

BACK CHART



RIGHT FRONT

Using 3mm needles and yarn A, cast on 31 (34, 38) sts
Work as for Back to *** working rib as folls for first size only:

- Row 2: k1, *p1, k1, rep from * to end
- Row 3: p1, *k1, p1, rep from * to end
- Rows 4-5: rep Rows 2-3

NOTE: letter foll each instruction indicates yarn shade

- Next row: k2 (1, 1) A, *k3 B, k1 A, rep from * to last st, k1 A
- Next row: p2 A, *p3 B, p1 A, rep from * to last 1 (0, 0) sts, p1 (0, 0) A
- Next row: k3 (2, 2) A, *k1 B, k3 A, rep from * to end
- Beg with a p row, work three rows in st st
- Set Star patt as folls:
 - Next row: k1 (4, 8) A, using yarn C for motif, work Row 1 of Chart
 - Keeping positioning correct and using colours to match Back, work Rows 2-28 of Chart, then Rows 1-28 once more **AT THE SAME TIME**, when work meas 18.5 (21, 23.5) cm, ending after a WS row, shape neck as folls:

SHAPE NECK

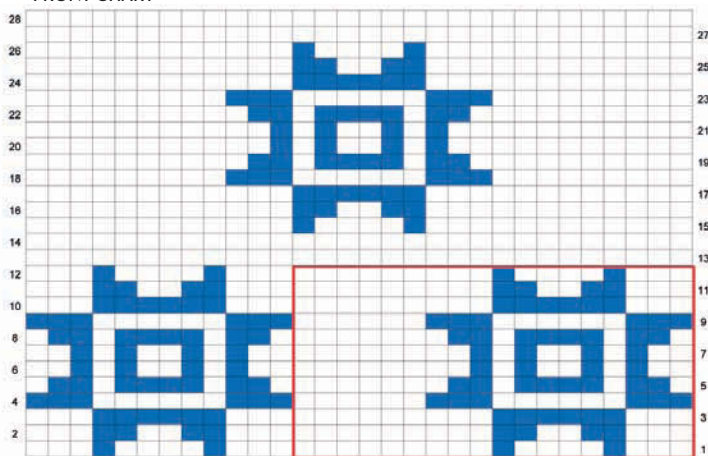
Keeping Chart correct, cont as folls:

- Cast off 5 (5, 6) sts at beg of next row, then three sts at beg of foll RS row, then two sts at beg of foll RS row. 21 (24, 27) sts
- Cast off one st at beg of next 2 (3, 3) RS rows. 19 (21, 24) sts
- Using yarn A only, cont in st st without shaping until work meas 23 (26, 29) cm
- Cast off

LEFT FRONT

- Using 3mm needles and yarn A, cast on 31 (34, 38) sts
- Work as for Back to *** working rib as for Right front
- NOTE: letter foll each instruction indicates yarn shade**
- Next row: k1 A, *k3 B, k1 A, rep from * to last 2 (1, 1) sts, k2 (1, 1) B
- Next row: p2 (1, 1) B, *p1 A, p3 B, rep from * to last st, p1 A
- Next row: k2 A, *k1 B, k3 A, rep from * to last 1 (0, 0) sts, k1 (0, 0) B
- Beg with a p row, work three rows in st st
- Set Star patt as folls:
 - Next row: using yarn C for motif, work Row 1 of Chart, k1 (4, 8) A
 - Keeping positioning correct and using colours to match Back, work Rows 2-28 of Chart, then Rows 1-28 once more **AT THE SAME TIME**,

FRONT CHART



when work meas 18.5 (21, 23.5) cm, ending after a RS row, shape neck as folls:

SHAPE NECK

Keeping Chart correct, cont as folls:

- Cast off 5 (5, 6) sts at beg of next row, then three sts at beg of foll WS row, then two sts at beg of foll WS row. 21 (24, 27) sts
- Cast off one st at beg of next 2 (3, 3) WS rows. 19 (21, 24) sts
- Using yarn A only, cont in st st without shaping until work meas 23 (26, 29) cm
- Cast off

SLEEVES (make two)

Using 3mm needles, cast on 40 (42, 44) sts

- Row 1: k each st tbl
- Rows 2-5: * k1, p1, rep from * to end

Change to 3.25mm needles

- Beg with a k row, work two rows in st st

NOTE: letter foll each instruction indicates yarn shade

- Next row: k0 (1, 0) A, * k3 B, k1 A, rep from * to last 0 (1, 0) sts, k0 (1, 0) A
- Next row: p0 (1, 0) A, * p1 A, p3 B, rep from * to last 0 (1, 0) sts, p0 (1, 0) A
- Next row: k1 (2, 1) A, * k1 B, k3 A, rep from * to last 3 (0, 3) sts, k1 (0, 1) B, k2 (0, 2) A
- Using yarn A only, work in st st inc one st at each end of next row and every foll sixth row 6 (7, 9) times. 54 (58, 64) sts
- Cont without shaping until work meas 15 (18, 21) cm
- Cast off

BUTTONBAND

Using 3mm needles and yarn A cast on eight sts

- Row 1: k each st tbl
- Row 2: * k1, p1, rep from * to end
- Rep last row until work meas 18.5 (21, 23.5) cm



Place sts on a holder
Mark out spacings for buttons, positioning one at bottom of band and 3 (3, 4) an equal distance apart, allowing for a final button to be added on Neckband

BUTTONHOLE BAND

Work as for Buttonband working 4 (4, 5) two-row buttonholes to correspond with buttons as folls:

- Buttonhole row 1: rib 3, cast off two sts [one st on RH needle], rib to end
- Buttonhole row 2: rib to gap, turn, cable cast on two sts, turn, rib to end

NECKBAND

With RS facing, join shoulder seams

- Using 3mm needles and yarn A, with RS facing, rib 8 from top of Buttonhole band, pick up and k 11 (13, 15) from Right front neck, k24 (26, 28) sts from Back stitch holder, pick up and k 11 (13, 15) sts down Left front neck, rib 8 from top of Buttonband. 62 (68, 74) sts
- Rows 1-3: * k1, p1, rep from * to end
- Rows 4-5: work buttonhole as for Buttonhole band
- Row 6: as Row 1
- Cast off

To make up

Fold Sleeves in half and position centre point to shoulder seam. Sew in place. Sew sides and underarm seams. Sew on buttons to correspond with buttonholes

HAT

Using 3mm needles and yarn A, cast on 92 (96, 104) sts

- Row 1: k each st tbl
- Rows 2-15: beg with a k row, work in st st
- Change to 3.25mm needles
- Beg with a k row, work two rows in st st

NOTE: letter foll each instruction indicates yarn shade

- Next row: * k3 B, k1 A, rep from * to end
- Next row: * p1 A, p3 B, rep from * to end
- Next row: k1 A, * k1 B, k3 A, rep from * to last three sts, k1 B, k2 A
- Using yarn A only and beg with a p row, work three rows in st st Place motif as folls:
- Next row: k4 (6, 1), alternating colours for motifs as folls: yarn C, yarn B, yarn D, rep Row 1 of Front Chart across row, working red box section 4 (4, 5) times, k4 (6, 1) A
- Keeping positioning of Chart

correct, work Rows 2-12 of Chart
□ Cont in yarn A only until work meas 14 (15, 16) cm from cast-on edge, ending after a p row

SHAPE CROWN

- Row 1: k1 (3, 2), * k8, k2tog, rep from * to last 1 (3, 2) sts, k1 (3, 2). 83 (87, 94) sts
- Row 2 and all WS rows: p
- Row 3: k1 (3, 2), * k7, k2tog, rep from * to last 1 (3, 2) sts, k1 (3, 2). 74 (78, 84) sts
- Row 5: k1 (3, 2), * k6, k2tog, rep from * to last 1 (3, 2) sts, k1 (3, 2). 65 (69, 74) sts
- Row 7: k1 (3, 2), * k5, k2tog, rep from * to last 1 (3, 2) sts, k1 (3, 2). 56 (60, 64) sts
- Cont to dec as set until 20 (24, 24) sts rem
- Row 17: * k2tog, rep from * end. 10 (12, 12) sts
- Row 18: p
- Cut yarn leaving a tail, thread through rem sts, pull tight and fasten off

To make up

Weave in all loose ends. With RS facing, using yarn tail and mattress stitch, sew seam to where you changed needle size. With WS facing, sew remaining seam and allow edge to roll up **LK**



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to win!

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Raglan Sweater from Debbie Bliss Fine Donegal, £7.95, **01829 740903**, www.laughinghens.com

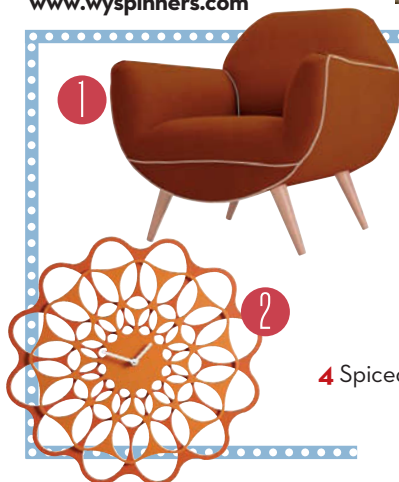


- 1** Debbie Bliss Angel - shade 39 Rust costs £8.79 per 25g (200m) ball from **0845 544 2196**, www.loveknitting.com
- 2** King Cole Moorland Aran - shade 373 Rust costs £3.95 per 100g (196m) ball from **01707 331777**, www.zipsnclips.co.uk
- 3** Rowan Pure Wool Worsted - shade 106 Rust costs £7.65 per 100g (200m) ball from **01925 764231**, www.blacksheepwools.com
- 4** West Yorkshire Spinners Aire Valley Aran - shade Rust has an RRP of £4.75 per 100g (200m) ball. For stockists: **01535 664500**, www.wyspinners.com

- 5** DY Choice DK with Wool - shade 308 Rust costs £3.25 per 100g (295m) ball from **01244 389310**, www.stashfineyarns.com
- 6** Patons Diploma Gold DK - shade 6202 Rust costs £2.75 per 50g (120m) ball from www.purplelindacrafts.co.uk
- 7** Cygnet Wool Rich 4ply - shade 2150 Rust costs £2.40 per 50g (205m) ball from **01279 771153**, www.modernknitting.co.uk
- 8** DMC Metal Chic Marquise - shade 10 costs £4.99 per 50g (155m) ball from **0800 488 0708**, www.deramores.com

FASHION accent

ADD A SPLASH OF ORANGE TO YOUR HOME



- 1** Juno Armchair, £449, **0345 450 6118**, www.made.com
- 2** Diamantini and Domeniconi Small Wall Clock, £99, **0330 363 0330**, www.occa-home.co.uk
- 3** Raj Table Lamp, £39, **0344 257 1908**, www.pagazzi.com
- 4** Spiced Orange Large Jar Candle, £19.99, **0117 316 1200**, www.yankeecandle.co.uk
- 5** Handmade Cushion Cover, £16.99, www.earthstrove.etsy.com





Part 11: *Picking up stitches*



LK deputy editor **Adrienne Chandler** demonstrates how to pick up stitches

In knitting patterns, you will often be instructed to “pick up” stitches, usually when working a neckline or buttonband. However, it’s not just a case of slipping your needle underneath the strands of the stitches already worked. In *Let’s Knit*, we use the full term, “pick up and knit”, which is much more descriptive. Here’s how you do it:

PICKING UP AND KNITTING ON A STRAIGHT EDGE

This is frequently used for neckbands and collars

Step 1: with RS facing, starting on far right hand edge, insert needle through centre of stitch



Step 2: wrap yarn around needle as if to knit

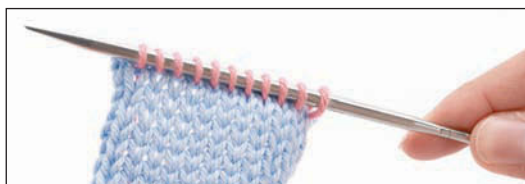


Step 3: pull loop on needle through to front of work



Working from left to right, rep Steps 1-3

Finished edge from the RS:



Finished edge from the WS:



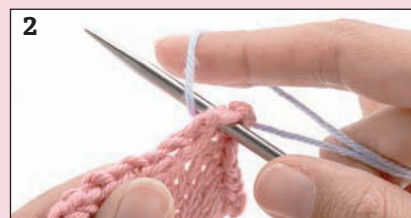
NOTE: when picking up stitches with the RS facing, you will end up with a slight ridge on the WS of the work

PICKING UP AND KNITTING ON A SLOPED EDGE

This is also used on necklines, and sometimes for armholes



Step 1: starting at top of right-sloping edge or bottom of left-sloping edge, insert needle through centre of second stitch from edge



Step 2: wrap yarn around needle as if to knit



Step 3: pull loop on needle through to front of work



Working along sloped edge, rep Steps 1-3

PICKING UP AND KNITTING ON A SELVEDGE

This is most commonly used for buttonbands and front edges



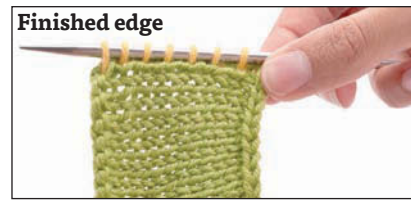
Step 1: starting at top of left-hand edge or bottom of right-hand edge, insert needle between first and second stitches



Step 2: wrap yarn around needle as if to knit



Step 3: pull loop on needle through to front of work



Working along side edge, rep Steps 1-3

PICKING UP AND KNITTING ON A SLIP STITCH SELVEDGE

Slipping the first stitch of every row creates a neat row of chain stitches that makes picking up and knitting much easier. You will often see this when working the heel flap on a pair of socks.



Step 1: starting at top of left-hand edge or bottom of right-hand edge, insert needle underneath both strands of slipped stitch



Step 2: wrap yarn around needle as if to knit



Step 3: pull loop on needle through to front of work
Working along side edge, rep Steps 1-3



Finished edge

TOP TIP

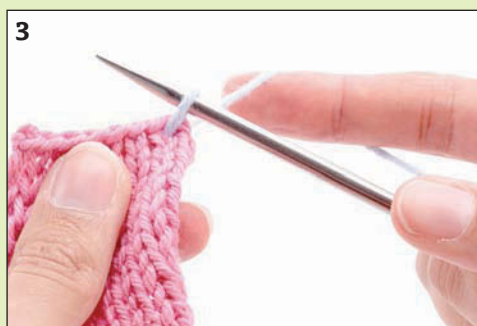
If you're finding it difficult to pull the loop through the fabric, try using a crochet hook instead



Step 1: insert hook through fabric as instructed



Step 2: wrap yarn around hook and pull through fabric



Step 3: transfer stitch on to knitting needle

WORKING OUT RATIOS

Knitted stitches are wider than they are tall – think about your tension square, you have fewer stitches than rows over 10cm. This needs to be factored in when picking up stitches on a selvedge. It is most common to pick up and knit two stitches every three rows. This will prevent the fabric from being distorted. On a slip stitch selvedge, pick up in every stitch.

COMMON TERMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

In patterns, you may find that the instruction for picking up stitches is expressed in a number of ways, but they all use the same technique:

Pick up
Pick up and knit (k)
Puk
Knit up

PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT

Have a go at picking up stitches on the following projects



Knit School is sponsored by HiyaHiya needles. Find a range of double-pointed, circular and interchangeable needles, available in stainless steel or bamboo varieties. The needles used in this tutorial were HiyaHiya's Sharp interchangeable straight needles. Visit www.hiyahiya-uk.com/retailers for stockists and further information.



Christmas Feast

EXCLUSIVE TO

Let's
knit

*Add some festive sparkle to the big spread
with Jane Burns' table runner*

Christmas homewares don't all have to be red and green. This project uses muted shades, but the cotton-blend yarn has been plied with a thread of metallic silver which makes it perfect for the holiday season. The pattern is made up of lots of squares, which are then sewn together, meaning you can easily change the size and shape of runner to suit your table.



meet our
DESIGNER

"This table runner can be easily adapted to fit any table. Simply rearrange the squares, adding more if necessary. Join where the squares meet and work the border as instructed."

JANE BURNS

Measurements & sizes

Table runner: 110cm x 55cm

Motif: 18cm x 18cm (after blocking)

Crochet Kit

Yarn: Sirdar Ella DK, (A) shade 004 Pearlescent, two 50g balls, (B) shade 001 Cool Cream, four 50g balls

Hook: 4mm

Tapestry needle

FOR ABBREVIATIONS SEE PAGE 92

About the Yarn

Sirdar Ella DK is a mix of cotton and acrylic, with a hint of polyester in the form of a metallic strand. It comes in 15 colours and is machine washable – ideal for those inevitable splashes and spills!

Need an Alternative yarn?

If you'd prefer a non-glitzy yarn, try Stylecraft Classique Cotton DK. It's a pure cotton yarn that is available in 17 cheerful shades.

Let's Shop

Sirdar Ella DK costs £2.80 per 50g (126m) ball from 01924 565740, www.woolnstuff.co.uk

Stylecraft Classique Cotton DK costs £3.99 per 100g (184m) ball from 01376 743123, www.sconchtextiles.co.uk

Start knitting here

MOTIFS (make 27)

Using 4mm hook and yarn B, make a magic loop (see Crochet Clever)

□ Rnd 1: 3ch (counts as 1tr), 15tr into ring, sl st in third of 3-ch at beg of rnd. 16 sts

□ Rnd 2: 5ch (counts as 1tr, 2ch), 1tr in base of 5-ch, * miss next tr, (1tr, 2ch, 1tr) in next tr, rep from * six times, miss one tr, sl st in third of 5-ch at beg of rnd

□ Rnd 3: sl st in first 2-ch sp, 5ch (counts as 1tr, 2ch), 2tr in same sp, (2tr, 2ch, 2tr) in each 2-ch sp to end, 1tr in same sp as sl st at beg of rnd, sl st in third of 5-ch at beg of rnd

□ Rnd 4: sl st in first 2-ch sp, 5ch (counts as 1tr, 2ch), 3tr in same sp, (3tr, 2ch, 3tr) in each 2-ch sp to end, 2tr in same sp as sl st at beg of rnd, sl st in third of 5-ch at beg of rnd

□ Rnd 5: sl st in first 2-ch sp, 5ch (counts as 1tr, 2ch), 4tr in same sp, (4tr, 2ch, 4tr) in each 2-ch sp to end, 3tr in same sp as sl st at beg of rnd, sl st in third of 5-ch at beg of rnd

□ Fasten off

Join yarn A with a sl st in 2-ch sp on any side edge

NOTE: work into sp between sts, not into top of st on prev rnd

□ Rnd 6: * 1dc in next sp, 1ltr in next sp, 1tr in each of next five sps, (2tr, 3ch, 2tr) in corner sp, 1tr in next five sps, 1ltr in next sp, 1dc in next sp, sl st in 2-ch sp, rep from * three times, sl st in sl st at beg of rnd

□ Fasten off

To make up

Weave in ends. Lay motifs out as shown in diagram. With RS facing, using yarn B and working into the back loops only, join motifs where red lines indicate, by working 1dc into each edge stitch

BORDER

With RS facing, rejoin yarn B into any edge st

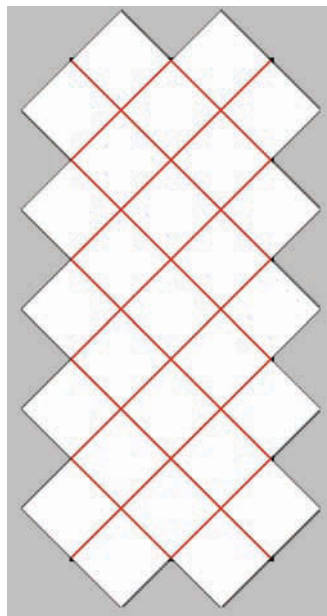
□ Using 4mm hook, work 1dc through both loops of each edge st, working 3dc in each corner sp, sl st in first dc

□ Fasten off

Weave in ends and block **LK**



GRANNY SQUARE LAYOUT



crochet clever

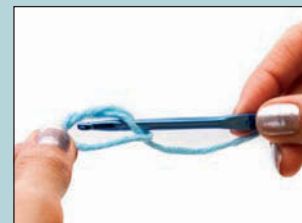
A kind of magic

The squares begin with a magic loop. This is an adjustable ring that you can tighten to disguise the hole at the beginning of the round.

Step 1: make a loop of yarn leaving the tail hanging downwards.



Step 2: insert the hook through the middle of the loop and draw the yarn from the ball through the loop, now make 1ch. This does not count as a stitch.



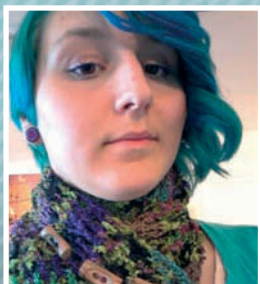
NOTE: these two steps form the base of any magic ring

Now work into the ring as instructed. After this round, close the centre hole by pulling on the yarn tail.



"Place a stitch marker in the first stitch of every round to help you keep your place as you work"

LK Deputy Editor **Adrienne Chandler**



5 Minute chat

Hannah Stansfield, owner of The Wool Loft, Lincoln

Tell us more about The Wool Loft!

Myself and my mum, Liz, have been working on The Wool Loft website for a number of years. Last year we opened a shop in Gainsborough, and then another in Lincoln on 27th September. My shelves are 10ft high and I have to use a ladder to get to some of the stock, but it makes for a breathtaking view!

Have you always been a knitter?

I was taught to knit at a very young age by my nan. I've been an avid crocheter for the past few years, and recently I rediscovered the joys of knitting in a big way. Now I always have several projects on the go!

What do you look for in your stock?

I love colour and texture, so as well as the basic range, I like to have more adventurous things in. I had some custom hand-dyed yarn created by Three Violet Buttons for my shop opening and it went down a treat! The biggest thing for me is quality – I try to ensure my yarns are durable but also have a nice feel to them.

How important are knit and knatters?

They not only bring in a regular stream of customers, but are very helpful for those who attend, especially some of our older knitters who spend a lot of time home alone. It's also a great chance to get advice and pick other people's brains over particular patterns or projects. I also really enjoy the sense of community that a knit and knatter brings, as people of all ages and walks of life attend.

Find out more at
www.thewoolloft.co.uk

what's in... STORE?

GET THE HOT GOSSIP FROM YOUR
FAVOURITE SHOPS AROUND THE UK



Lazing around

Known for their, shall we say, "casual" attitude to life, sloths are remarkably cute creatures, and we fell in love with Laid-back Larry by James C. Brett as soon as we saw him! Made using the brand new Faux Fur yarn, he's sure to be a hit this Christmas. Pattern number JB282. For stockists, go to www.jamescbrett.co.uk or call 01274 565959



Rainbow fever

Any blog-savvy readers are sure to have heard of Attic24, a colourful crochet blog by yarn superstar, Lucy. Her blog has bags of heart and an affinity for beautiful blankets! If you want to recreate one of Lucy's designs you can now get yarn packs from the exclusive Attic24 shop at Wool Warehouse. Go to www.woolwarehouse.co.uk or call 0800 505 3300



Lofty heights

If you're visiting Nottingham this winter, make sure you stop by The Yarn Loft on Hucknall Road! The delightful shop stocks a wide range of luxury yarns, including Debbie Bliss and Manos del Uruguay, as well as popular ranges such as Patons and Wendy. It is also the main Nottingham stockist for Malabrigo. 07825 702433, www.yarnloft.co.uk

Woolly heaven

Avicraft Wool Shop is a traditional store found in Bromley, Kent. It has recently taken on new yarns from King Cole and Sirdar, including King Cole Riot Chunky, King Cole Big Value Multi Chunky, and Sirdar Divine. If you're a beginner or need a refresher course, try popping in and joining one of the popular workshops! 0208 290 1238, www.avicraftwool.com



Turn the TABLES

Keep these pages handy to guide you on your way

YARN WEIGHTS

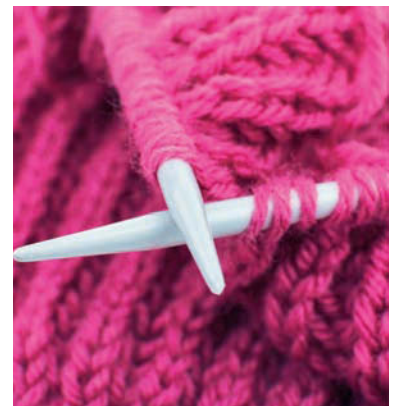
ABBREVIATIONS

o	no stitches, times or rows	RS	right side
-	no stitches, times or rows for that size	skpo	slip one, knit one, pass slipped stitch over
alt	alternate	sk2po	slip next stitch purlwise, knit two together, pass slipped stitch over and off needle
approx	approximately	sl 2, k1, p2sso	slip next two stitches knitwise at the same time, knit one, pass both slipped stitches over
beg	beginning	sl 1	slip one stitch
bet	between	sl st	slip stitch
C4F	(cable 4 front) slip two stitches on to cable needle, hold at front of work, k2, k2 from cable needle	sm	slip marker
C4B	(cable 4 back) slip two stitches onto cable needle, hold at back of work, k2, k2 from cable needle	sp (s)	space(s)
ch	chain stitch	ssk	one by one slip the next two stitches knitwise. Put your left needle through the front loops of both slipped stitches and knit them together
ch sp	chain space	st (s)	stitch (es)
circ	circular needles	st st	stocking stitch (k on RS row, p on WS row)
cm	centimetres	tbl	through the back loop (s)
cn	cable needle	tr	treble crochet
cont	continue (ing)	w&t	(on knit rows) take the yarn between the needles to the front of the work, slip the next stitch from the Left Hand needle to the Right Hand needle purlwise, take the yarn between the needles back to its original position, slip the stitch back to the Left Hand needle and turn (on purl rows) take the yarn between the needles to the back of the work, slip the next stitch from the Right Hand needle to the Left Hand needle and turn
dc	double crochet	WS	wrong side
dc2tog	(insert hook into next stitch, yarn over hook, pull through loop) twice, yarn over hook, pull through all three loops on hook	wyib	with yarn in back
dec	decrease (ing)	wyif	with yarn in front
dpn(s)	double pointed needle(s)	yb	yarn back
dtr	double treble crochet	yfwd	yarn forward (between knit stitches)
fol	following	yo	work yfwd/yon/yrn as appropriate
htr	half treble crochet	yoh	yarn over hook
inc	increase (ing)	yon	yarn over needle (between a purl and a knit stitch)
k	knit	yrn	yarn round needle (between a purl stitch and a purl stitch)
kfb	knit into the front and the back of the next stitch	y2rn	wrap yarn twice around needle
k2tog	knit two stitches together	*	repeat instructions following the asterisk as many times as instructed
kwise	knitwise	O[]	work instructions inside the brackets as many times as instructed
lp	loop		
m1	make one stitch, by picking up the horizontal loop before next stitch and knitting into the back of it		
m1p	make one stitch, by picking up the horizontal loop before next stitch and purling into the back of it		
meas	measure (s)		
mm	millimeters		
N1 (2, 3)	needle 1 (2, 3)		
p	purl		
pb	place bead		
pfb	purl into the front and back of next st		
pm	place marker		
p2tog	purl two stitches together		
prev	previous		
pssso	pass slipped stitch over and off needle		
p2sso	pass two slipped stitches over and off needle		
pwise	purlwise		
rem	remain (ing)		
rep	repeat (ing)		
rev st st	reverse stocking stitch (p on RS row, k on WS row)		
rm	remove marker		

YARN TYPE	STANDARD TENSION	STANDARD NEEDLE SIZE
Lace	30-33 sts-36-50 rows	2mm-3mm
4ply	28 sts-36 rows	3.25mm
DK	22 sts-28 rows	4mm
Aran	18 sts-24 rows	5mm
Chunky	14 sts-19 rows	6.5mm
Super Chunky	9 sts-12 rows	10mm

NEEDLE SIZING

UK (mm)	U.S.A	Old UK/Canada
2	0	14
2.25	1	13
2.75	2	12
3	-	11
3.25	3	10
3.5	4	-
3.75	5	9
4	6	8
4.5	7	7
5	8	6
5.5	9	5
6	10	4
6.5	10 1/2	3
7	-	2
7.5	-	1
8	11	0
9	13	00
10	15	000
12	17	-
15	-	-
16	19	-
19	35	-
20	36	-
25	50	-



TENSION HEADACHE

It's really important to knit tension square before you begin a project. Not everybody knits the same way - some knit more tightly than others - and this will affect how the stitch pattern looks and the finished size of the item. Tension squares are usually presented like this:

22 sts x 30 rows
10cm x 10cm
stocking stitch
4mm needles

To knit your tension square, cast on the instructed number of stitches, in this case 22, plus five more. Then, using the needle size and same stitch pattern given, work the instructed number of rows, plus five more. Using a ruler and taking your measurements from the centre of the square, count the number of stitches and number of rows over a 10cm square. If you have more than you should do, it means your knitting is a little tight and you may need to use larger needles. Similarly, if you have fewer stitches and rows, use smaller needles to get the correct tension.

"Using the correct size of needles for the yarn weight helps to produce a taut, neat fabric"



AT A LOOSE END?

Follow these steps for weaving in any tails of yarn:

- 1.** Thread the yarn on to a tapestry needle and work with the WS of the project facing upwards.
- 2.** Insert the needle under the loop of each stitch, and draw it through. Work it

up and down the loops of the stitches for 8cm. An alternative method is to weave through the back of the stitch, splitting the strand of yarn as you sew.

3. Cut the yarn close to the fabric.

NOTE: In colourwork, weave the yarn tails into the matching colour section.

SUBSTITUTION

There are many reasons to want to substitute the yarn given in a project, from price to colour selection, but there are some important points to remember.

- Choose a yarn with a similar tension to the suggested yarn. Match the tension given on the ball band of the yarns, as the pattern may use a different stitch. Remember to do a tension square in the new yarn before you begin.
- Consider the fibre content of the yarn and how this might affect the finished project. For example, cotton yarn will knit up very differently to a wool yarn.



- Don't forget to check the care instructions of your new yarn. Not all yarns are machine washable.
- Look at the meterage of the new yarn, rather than the weight of the ball. Not all 50g balls have the same meterage and you don't want to run short when nearing the end of your project.

ON THE BLOCKS

Blocking is the process of stretching and shaping your finished items to create the correct dimensions from the pattern and even out your stitches. It is also really useful for ensuring that pieces to be joined fit well together. There are a few different ways to achieve this, so check the information on the yarn ball band and pick the most suitable option.

Wet blocking: dampen the pieces so that they are wet through and gently squeeze out the excess water. Lay out the pieces and pin them to the correct measurements,

then leave them to dry. For delicate fibres and lace projects, you can just spritz the pieces with a water spray, rather than submerging them fully.

Steaming: lay a damp cloth over your work and gently iron over the top – do not iron directly on to your knitting. Continue to iron until the cloth is dry. Another option is to gently hover over your work with the iron and apply steam until the knitting relaxes, this is good for delicate projects and textured stitches. Pin to the desired measurements and allow to set.

Pattern UPDATES

Here at LK we try our hardest to make sure our patterns are free from errors, but sometimes they do slip through the net. Here you will find our latest pattern updates; we apologise for any inconvenience caused. If you have any queries about one of our patterns, please call **01206 508622** or email support@letsknit.co.uk. For further updates visit www.letsknit.co.uk

LK85, Christmas Crackers

Tasty Treats, p17

The needle size in the Knit Kit is incorrect. This pattern requires 3.25mm needles



Step-BY-Step

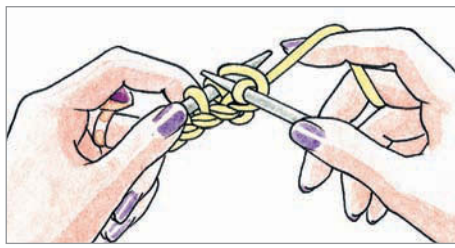
Learn to knit today with these clear guides



KNIT STITCH



1 Once cast on, insert the tip of the right needle upwards and from front to back into the top stitch on the left needle. The right hand needle should sit behind the left hand one. Wrap the ball end of yarn anticlockwise around the tip of the right hand needle.



2 Using the right hand needle, pull a loop of the wrapped yarn through the original stitch to create a new one on the right hand needle. Slide the original stitch off the left hand needle. Repeat from step one. You are now knitting! The knit stitch can be combined with other stitches to create hundreds of different stitch patterns.

HELPING HAND

If you need a refresher on basic knitting techniques, visit our website www.letsknit.co.uk.

You'll also find the following step-by-step instructions in the magazine:

Learn how to pick up stitches across a variety of edges on page 87

These can be used in the following projects:

Festive Sparkle, p13

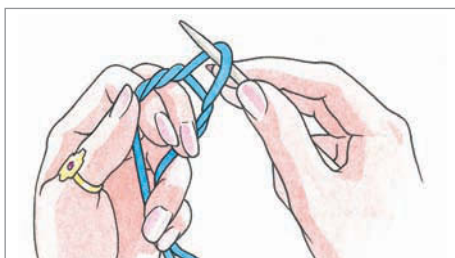
Bernadette, p16

Blue Moon, p46

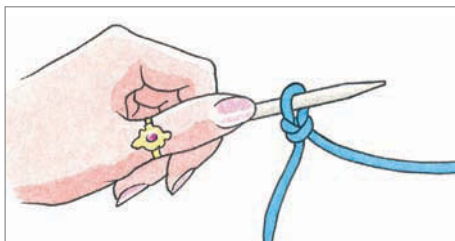
Wandering Star, p81



MAKING A SLIP KNOT

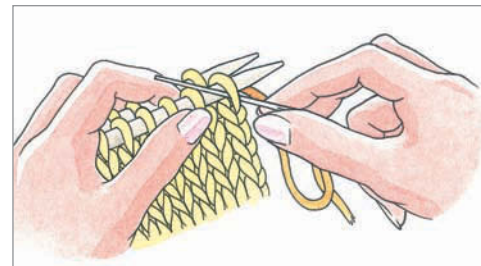


1 Holding the yarn under your left thumb, wrap it twice around your left index and middle fingers, with the second loop closer to the base of the fingers. With the backs of the fingers uppermost, insert the tip of the needle beneath the first loop and over the second, and pull the second loop under the first.



2 Remove the two fingers and gently tug on both ends of yarn to tighten the slip knot around the needle.

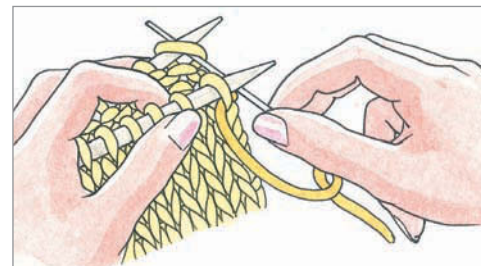
GRAFT THE TOE



Kitchener Stitch is the method used to achieve this. It is worked as follows:

SET UP: Before starting you need to prepare the stitches on the needle. Hold the two needles with the remaining stitches parallel. The loose end of yarn should be coming from the back needle and lying to the right of the work.

1 Thread yarn end onto a tapestry needle and insert it purlwise into the first stitch on the needle closest to you. Pull the yarn through but leave the stitch on the needle.



2 Insert the tapestry needle knitwise into the first stitch on the back needle and pull the yarn through, leaving the stitch on the needle.

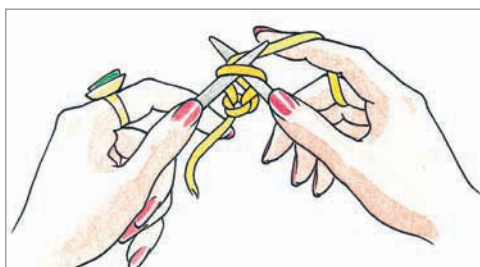


3 Having set up as shown in steps 1 and 2, repeat steps 3 and 4 until all stitches have been grafted. Insert the tapestry needle knitwise into the first stitch on the front needle and slide the stitch off. Before you pull the yarn through this stitch insert the tapestry needle into the next stitch on the front needle purlwise and pull the yarn through, this time leaving the stitch on the needle.



4 Insert the tapestry needle purlwise into the first stitch on the back needle and slide it off. Before pulling the yarn through this stitch, insert the tapestry needle into the next stitch on the back needle knitwise and pull the yarn through, leaving the stitch on the needle.

CABLE CAST ON



1 Create a slipknot on your left hand needle, pulling it taut (but not too tight). Carefully insert the right needle into the knot from front to back, passing under the left hand needle. Wrap the ball end of yarn anticlockwise around the point of the right needle.



2 Pull the loop that forms back through the original stitch (knot) and insert the tip of the left hand needle into the new stitch from underneath to transfer it from the right hand to the left hand needle. There should now be two stitches on the left hand needle.



3 Insert the right needle between the two stitches on the left needle and wrap the yarn around the needle tip anticlockwise. Draw this loop through to make a stitch and slip it up and onto the left needle. Repeat this creating a new loop behind the last stitch and passing it left needle in front of the previous one.

BACK STITCH

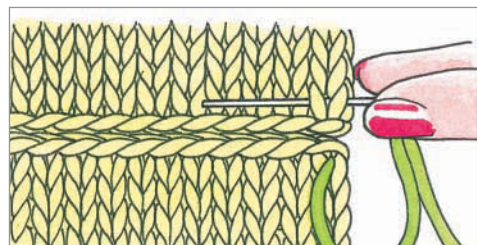


1 Pin the pieces to be joined, with the right sides together. Thread the loose end of yarn onto a tapestry needle. Start by stitching the two outer edges together, then bring the needle through the two pieces 1cm from back to front ahead of the previous stitch.

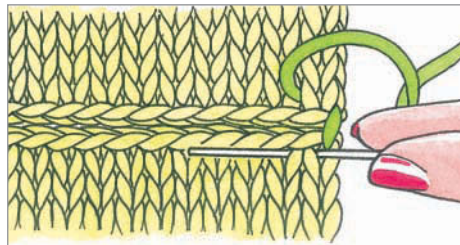


2 Push the needle back through at the position where the yarn emerged from the previous stitch. Return it to the front of the work, approx 1cm ahead of the stitch just made. Repeat this until the whole join is complete, working in a straight line.

JOINING CAST OFF EDGES

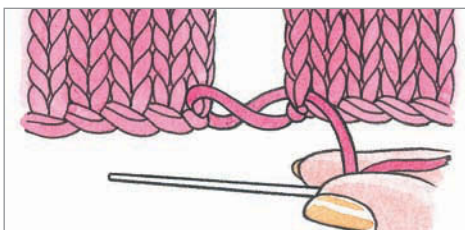


1 Lay the two pieces to be joined right side up and with the cast off edges touching. Thread a tapestry needle with the loose yarn and push this through the centre of the first stitch, and then in and out through the centres of two stitches on the opposite side.



2 Take the needle over to the first side and insert where it previously exited, bringing it out through the centre of the next stitch. Repeat this process alternating sides and stitching single stitches until the pieces are joined.

BEGINNING A SEAM



1 With the pieces placed next to each other with right side upwards, thread the yarn tail through the fabric after the first stitch, moving the needle from front to back. Then, take the needle behind the first stitch on the second piece from the back of the work to the front. The yarn will form a figure 8. Tug gently to secure.

MATTRESS STITCH



1 With the two pieces to be joined lying next to each other, hook the horizontal bar of the first stitch with the tapestry needle. Move to the other piece and hook the first horizontal bar of the stitch on that side.
2 Repeat this moving from one piece to the next and pulling the yarn to tighten the join.

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PRINTED In England © Aceville Publications
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Web Watch...

with Elaine Jinks-Turner from Baa Baa Brighthouse

What made you decide to start your own site?

I have three children, and after the birth of my second child, I suffered with
prolonged post-natal depression. I turned to knitting as a form of therapy and it
really helped me to cope through some tough times. Baa Baa Brighthouse spiralled
from that.

Why did you choose to specialise in British yarns?

So much British industry has been moved abroad due to cheaper manufacturing,
but I think the wool industry will endure, and as a yarn supplier I wanted to support
it. We have some fabulous British breeds right here, so we ought to celebrate that
fact. I'm incredibly proud to help to ensure our vast woollen heritage survives for
future generations.

Tell us more about the yarn clubs and groups?

Baa Baa Brighthouse has teamed up with a number of Yorkshire-based indie dyers to
form the Yan Tan Tethera Yarn Club. Each month you receive an exclusive skein
of quality Yorkshire yarn that has been sourced, spun and dyed locally by hand. We
also run a free bi-weekly knitting and crochet group at a local library.

How important is a personal connection from websites?

It is vital. That's why we go the extra mile in the way we treat our customers. It is
important that they remember us for the service as well as the quality of the
products. We like to make them feel special.

Which new yarns are you most excited about this season?

We look for quality yarns in amazing colours. We also like to stock British yarns and
we have a number in our stores, including Rowan British Sheep Breeds and
West Yorkshire Spinners.

Which new yarn are you most excited about
this season?

It's really difficult to choose as there is so much on offer in
the autumn and winter months! I love the new Louisa
Harding Amitola colours and I'm very excited about
Wendy Ramsdale.

What are you planning for the future?

In the long term, I'd very much like to introduce our own
brand of hand-dyed yarns – Baa Baa Brighthouse
'Yorkshire Brew'.



For more information visit:
www.baabaabrighthouse.co.uk
01484 722662

Creativity isn't the sole property of any one field

We've been talking to **Kat Goldin** about inspiration, innovation and turning a hobby you love into a career!

Told as a teenager that she was not a creative person, Kat Goldin has certainly proven that this is far from the case. Knitter, crocheter and even photographer, she has gone from strength to strength since starting her professional crafting career in 2011. Having designed both her own patterns and a number of beginner kits, she's now a published author, with her newest title, the second book of *Crochet at Play*, released earlier this year.

I started knitting just a few years ago, before the birth of my daughter. I'd been crocheting for years, but simply couldn't get the hang of knitting.

It turns out everyone thought I was an English-style knitter, but holding the yarn in my right hand felt odd. As soon as I learned about continental knitting, I was off!

A little while ago, I was made redundant and needed to bring an income into the house. I looked around at what I could do with three very young children at home and picked up a crochet hook.

I started selling handmade hats online, but quickly moved to pattern writing and got a book deal shortly after that. After three years of working for myself, there is now no going back!

I don't buy yarns I wouldn't use!

I tend to donate my left over yarn to a local arts charity, friends or my son's school. Nothing sticks around very long – I am not a hoarder and tend to give away yarn that I am not likely to make anything with.

I was told in school that I wasn't a creative person! However,

I think the person who said this had a narrow definition of what creative meant: an ability to paint, draw and write poetry. In fact, creativity isn't the sole property of any one field – it is simply a way of thinking around the most obvious path to get from A to B.

I rarely get the inspiration for my designs in one place. I often see a stitch pattern or a

construction method I want to explore and base designs on these. I also get inspired by things someone is wearing – I have been known to chase people down the street to inspect their knitwear!

Turning a hobby you love into a career has its ups and downs. Mostly it's exactly as wonderful as

you'd think it is – doing what you love and getting paid for it! However, it's not without its downsides. The hours are long and it can be hard to juggle all of the work that makes designing a viable business.

To people wanting to learn how to design their own knitwear:

jump in! There is no better way than to get started. There is loads of help online and as a first stop, check out Joanne Scrase's tutorials called "Things I Didn't Know" on

notsogranny.com – a series of blog posts all about starting out designing.

Visit Kat's website for all her patterns, kits, books and more, at www.slugsontherefrigerator.com



"There is no better way than to get started."

TOP FIVE

Kat's top choice of yarns in her stash

1 Ripples Crafts – Anything! Her colours speak to me – we both live in rural Scotland, so we see many of the same kinds of sights.

2 Babylonglegs – Sarah's shades are retina searing and I just adore her bases.

3 Artesano – I love the range of yarns they are growing over there. Their Superwash is my go-to.

4 Libby Summer's Fine Aran – This is a great yarn. It's a light weight aran and the hues are perfect!

5 Tek Tek T-shirt Yarn from Creative You – A fantastic t-shirt yarn new to the market in the UK.

coming next issue

We find out the stash secrets of Meredith Crawford, One Sheepish Girl. December issue of *Let's Knit* on sale 21st November





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